

Lawyer wants Mitterrand as witness

PARIS (R) — The lawyer defending three Armenian militants accused of carrying out a fatal bomb attack at Orly airport two years ago said Tuesday he wanted to call President Francois Mitterrand and two ministers as witnesses. The trial of the three members of the Armenian Secret Army for the Liberation of Armenia (ASALA) opened Tuesday in the Paris suburb of Creteil amid strict security, with police marksmen surrounding the courthouse. Six people were killed and more than 50 injured in the attack on the Turkish Airlines desk at Orly in July, 1983. Lawyer Jacques Verges said he intended calling Mr. Mitterrand and the two ministers because he had evidence that the government had held secret negotiations with ASALA leaders. The two ministers are Planning Minister Gaston Defferre.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordanian Press Syndicate
جوردان تايمز يومية سياسية مستقلة تنشرها نقابة الصحفيين الأردنيين

University Of Jordan
Center of Strategic Studies
READING ROOM

Gromyko criticises U.S. approach

MOSCOW (R) — Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko Tuesday condemned Washington's approach to superpower arms talks next month as light-hearted and hypocritical, saying that if the negotiations failed the United States would be to blame. In a roughly worded election speech, Mr. Gromyko also said NATO leaders appeared to be addicted to the arms race. "The light-heartedness with which certain circles of the USA approach the negotiations... deserves to be sternly condemned," he said, referring to three-tier arms talks which start on March 12 in Geneva. The veteran foreign minister said the logical extension of Washington's military and negotiating strategy was that "the higher the weapons stockpiles, the easier it is to come to terms with their reduction." He added: "The hypocrisy of such statements cries out at you."

Volume 10 Number 2800

AMMAN, WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 20, 1985, JUMADA AL OOLA 30, 1405

Price: Jordan 100 fils; Syria 1 pound; Lebanon 1 pound; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams; Great Britain 25 pence

Iraqi leader receives King's message

BAGHDAD (Petra) — Iraqi President Saddam Hussein Tuesday received a message from His Majesty King Hussein dealing with the recently concluded Jordanian-Palestinian agreement on a joint approach to Middle East peace. The message was delivered to President Hussein by Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri who arrived in Baghdad Monday. President Hussein asked Mr. Masri to convey to his guests to King Hussein and His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan the Regent. The meeting was attended by Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz and Jordan's ambassador to Iraq.

Abu Odeh meets Howe in London

LONDON (Petra) — Court Minister Adnan Abu Odeh, now on a visit to Britain, met here Tuesday with Foreign Secretary Geoffrey Howe to brief him on the recent Jordanian-Palestinian agreement. The two officials also discussed the latest developments in the Middle East problem.

Parliamentary team returns from Cairo

AMMAN (J.T.) — A Jordanian parliamentary delegation led by Lower House of Parliament Speaker Akef Al Fayez returned to Amman Tuesday at the end of a week-long visit to Egypt. During the visit Mr. Fayez received by Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and held talks with senior Egyptian officials. In an interview with Jordan Television, shortly after his return Mr. Fayez said the recently concluded agreement between Jordan and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) was among the topics discussed during his talks in Cairo, and Egyptian officials and public voiced their warm support for the agreement.

Ceausescu sends message to Egypt

CAIRO (AP) — Romania's vice president arrived here Tuesday with a message from Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu to President Hosni Mubarak, the Middle East News Agency said. The agency said Mania Manescu would hold talks with Egyptian officials on developing bilateral relations which he termed as "excellent."

Pertini ends Egypt visit

CAIRO (R) — Italian President Sandro Pertini left Egypt Tuesday for home after a four-day state visit. He left from the Upper Egyptian winter resort city of Luxor where he spent the day touring ancient Egyptian monuments, the Middle East News Agency reported.

22 sentenced to death in Turkey

ANKARA (R) — A Turkish martial law court has sentenced 22 members of a separatist group to death for seeking to overthrow the state. The semi-official Anatolian news agency said the court also sentenced 25 people to life imprisonment at the end of a mass trial in which there were 624 defendants.

Prospects for Arab summit reported improving

Regent receives Fahd message on U.S. talks

By Salameh B. Ne'matt
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Tuesday received Saudi Arabia's Ambassador to the United States Prince Bandar Ibn Sultan, who delivered him a message from Saudi King Fahd to His Majesty King Hussein dealing with the Saudi leader's Middle East talks last week with U.S. President Ronald Reagan in Washington.

Prince Bandar, a veteran Saudi diplomat, arrived in Amman from Baghdad where he delivered a letter to Iraqi President Saddam Hussein. The Iraqi News Agency (INA) said the letter covered bilateral issues and the current Arab situation. On Sunday, the Saudi ambassador visited Damascus on a similar mission and said his talks with Syrian President Hafez Al Assad showed the Syrian and Saudi leaders shared identical views on Arab issues.

The Jordanian News Agency, Petra, which reported the two-hour meeting between Crown Prince Hassan, and Prince Bandar, did not give details but said it was attended by Prime Minister Ahmad Obeldat, Chief of the Royal Court Marwan Al-Jasem and the Saudi ambassador in Jordan. The Saudi prince left Amman shortly after the meeting to an undisclosed destination. After King Fahd, other Arab leaders including Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and Algerian President Chadli Benjedid are expected to visit Washington within coming weeks in moves that are expected to serve to re-engage the U.S. in the search for a peaceful settlement of the Middle East problem.

Meanwhile, in Riyadh, Arab diplomatic sources were quoted as saying that the long-delayed Arab summit conference will most likely be hosted by Saudi Arabia in April. The diplomats, quoted by the Associated Press (AP) Tuesday, said chances for convening the summit increased because Syria was "acquiescing."

Following his talks with Mr.

earlier, His Majesty King Hussein made a similar visit to Algeria, which has tried to mediate a division within the PLO putting supporters of Mr. Arafat against Syrian-backed hardliners.

Diplomats in Riyadh quoted by the AP said that the Palestinian question would be the main topic of the agenda of the projected pan-Arab summit.

The summit, originally scheduled to be held in November 1983, has failed to get off the ground because of inter-Arab differences, including Syria's rift with the PLO.

According to the Arab diplomats here, the Iran-Iraq war would also be on the summit agenda.

Saudi Arabia and Kuwait have been trying to talk Syria into ceasing its support for Iran against Iraq, as a step toward ending the 52-month-old Gulf war. Syria and Iraq are riled by rival wings of the same political organisation, the Arab Baath Socialist Party.

Jordan was expected to add to the agenda the issue of restoring Arab ties with Egypt. Arab Egyptian relations were ruptured in protest against Egypt's 1979 separate peace treaty with Israel. Jordan last September restored diplomatic ties with Egypt, but other Arab governments prefer to do so only after a unanimous resolution by an Arab summit to return Egypt to the Arab fold.

In another development, the U.S. and the Soviet Union met for five hours in Vienna Tuesday to discuss their differences in the Middle East, resuming a superpower dialogue on the region after a seven-year pause.

Chief American delegate at the talks, Richard Murphy indicated to reporters after the meeting that another session would be held on Wednesday, but he declined to give any substantive comment about the meeting.

"We agreed before that a statement would come out of Washington and Moscow," the AP quoted him as saying.

The Soviet negotiating team is headed by Vladimir Polyakov, Mr. Murphy's counterpart in the Soviet Foreign Ministry. The talks were expected to move to the U.S. embassy Wednesday.

Both sides have imposed a virtual news blackout on the talks, scheduled to end Wednesday.

Israeli 'agent' killed in Sidon

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Unidentified men Tuesday killed a Sidon resident suspected of collaborating with Israel, reports reaching here from South Lebanon said.

Nazih Al Zein, who had been labelled a "collaborator" of Israel by Lebanese resistance fighters, was killed as he drove to work at 8 a.m. (0600 GMT). His relatives responded by staging a gunfire protest in the streets, reports said.

About four carloads of Zein's relatives raced through Sidon's main public squares of Nijmeh and Riyadh Solh, shooting sub-machine guns into the air.

Zein's relatives made three shooting runs in the city before retreating to suburban Haret Saida neighbourhood to prepare for his funeral after Lebanese army soldiers appeared on the scene.

Pope-Peres talks fail to narrow Vatican-Israel rift

VATICAN CITY (AP) — Pope John Paul II and Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres remained committed to differing views on the Middle East conflict and on Jerusalem after a long and "cordial" meeting Tuesday.

Talking to reporters after the audience, Mr. Peres said he reiterated that the occupied Holy City of Jerusalem would remain Israel's "political capital" and the Pope would be a "welcome guest" in Israel.

Speaking to reporters in the Vatican's St. Damasus courtyard after the 40-minute meeting, Mr. Peres said he also pledged to the pontiff that Israel will "respect the religious rights, needs, and expectations of all religions" in Jerusalem.

The chief Vatican spokesman, Joaquin Navarro later told jour-

nalists that while Mr. Peres reiterated Israeli claims on Jerusalem, it was known that the Holy See's position was different — specifically its call for an "international statute" to guarantee the rights of Christians, Muslims and Jews.

Navarro termed the meeting "cordial." But said the position of the Holy See regarding the Middle East had not changed.

The Vatican's point of view was set down last April by Pope John Paul and included the point that the Palestinian people have a right for a homeland.

Mr. Peres was the first Israeli prime minister in nearly 12 years to meet with the head of the Roman Catholic Church.

Mr. Peres said he did not re-iterate a formal invitation for the Pope to visit Israel.

Three seamen — one South Korean, one Filipino and one Japanese — were reported killed in the 12 raids.

Radio operators said none of the three crippled vessels was answering wireless calls, requested by reporters.

The Kuwaiti container ship Al Munakh was struck at sundown Monday, when the 35,616-ton vessel caught fire as a result of four rocket blasts, shipping sources said.

One of the Al Manakh's all-Japanese 25 crewmen was reported killed and two others were wounded in the attack.

The seaman was the first Japanese casualty in a ship raid in the four-year-old Iran-Iraq war, maritime shipping executives said.



His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Tuesday receives Saudi Ambassador to Washington Prince Bandar Ibn Sultan, who delivered him a message from Saudi King Fahd to His Majesty King Hussein (Petra photo)

Saudi ship hit in third 'Iranian' attack in 24 hours

BAHRAIN (AP) — Jet fighters, believed to be Iranian, on Tuesday hit a Saudi Arabian-owned ship in the Gulf waters 116 kilometres northeast of Qatar, marine salvage executives reported.

They said the bunkering ship Mohammad Al Bakri-10 sustained "slight damage," inflicted by a rocket blast and was able to continue its trip.

The vessel, they said, was on its way to the eastern Saudi oil terminal of Ras Tanura at the time of the attack.

It was the third attack by warplanes in neutral Gulf waters in less than 24 hours.

The 22,000-ton Al Bakri-10 was hit in almost the same area where the Kuwaiti-registered cargo ship Al Manakh and the South Korean-owned tanker Royal Colombo were crippled by rockets and cannon fire Monday, shipping sources said.

"The three attacks yesterday and today were committed by the Iranians, according to reports received here from salvage tugboats currently in the Shah Olam area," said one marine salvage executive, who refused to be identified.

The Iranian attacks, the first since Dec. 26 when the Spanish-owned tanker Aragon was hit in the same region, were seen here as Tehran's retaliation against Iraqi air raids on oil tankers and bulk carriers calling at Iranian ports during the past few weeks.

"We are surprised these (Iranian) attacks did not happen before," said the same executive, alluding to 33 Iraqi responsibility claims for attacks on vessels since New Year's Day. Only nine of these Iraqi claims have been independently confirmed, by shipping and marine salvage agencies along the Gulf.

The three attacks brought to 12 the total number of confirmed raids on commercial shipping in the Gulf by Iran and Iraq.

Three seamen — one South Korean, one Filipino and one Japanese — were reported killed in the 12 raids.

Radio operators said none of the three crippled vessels was answering wireless calls, requested by reporters.

The Kuwaiti container ship Al Munakh was struck at sundown Monday, when the 35,616-ton vessel caught fire as a result of four rocket blasts, shipping sources said.

One of the Al Manakh's all-Japanese 25 crewmen was reported killed and two others were wounded in the attack.

The seaman was the first Japanese casualty in a ship raid in the four-year-old Iran-Iraq war, maritime shipping executives said.

Jordan needs more U.S. aid to face 'risks involved' in peace efforts — Shultz

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz on Tuesday told Congress that Jordan needs more American aid if the kingdom is to confront the "risks involved" in playing a prominent role in efforts for peace in the Middle East.

"One of the most important foreign policy goals of this administration is to help achieve a lasting peace between Israel and its Arab neighbours," Mr. Shultz told the Foreign Affairs Committee of the House of Representatives.

He noted that Israel and Egypt — "our principal partners in the quest for peace" — would continue to be the largest recipients of U.S. aid even though President Ronald Reagan's administration has yet to decide how much economic assistance to give Israel.

"Our economic and military assistance programmes are needed to strengthen Jordan's security and economy, both of which are vital to enable Jordan to confront the risks involved in playing a significant role in the peace process," Mr. Shultz said.

The administration is asking for \$117 million in aid for Jordan, a \$5 million increase in the total over this year, with a larger portion of the aid as grants or low-interest loans as opposed to market-rate interest.

In his prepared remarks Mr. Shultz made no reference to Jordan's request for advanced weapons. Such proposals have met with strong opposition in previous years from congressional supporters of Israel.

Mr. Shultz said the administration was recommending "a significant increase" to \$1.8 billion in military grants for Israel from this year's \$1.4 billion.

This, he said, was because "further progress towards peace depends in part on Israel having sufficient confidence in its ability to withstand external threats, but also confidence to U.S. support and assistance."

U.S. officials continue to discuss with Israel how the Jewish state can best deal with its economic problems, he said.

Al Najah students protest against Israeli deportation

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (AP) — Hundreds of Palestinian students staged a two-hour sit-in strike at a university in the occupied West Bank on Tuesday to protest the deportation of a Palestinian activist, military sources said.

Students at Al Najah University in Nablus sat inside and outside the campus buildings. Israeli troops nearby did not intervene to break up the strike, but allowed only students to enter the campus, the sources said.

Abdul Aziz Ali Shaheen, who was imprisoned for 15 years after he "illegally re-entered" the West Bank following the 1967 war, was deported to Lebanon on Sunday night. He spent the last three years under surveillance in his native village of Daharniya in the Gaza Strip.

Before the war he was a leading activist of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) in the Hebron area.

A Defence Ministry communiqué said Israel deported Mr. Shaheen because he intensified PLO activities in the Gaza Strip after his release from prison in 1982.

Mr. Shaheen was the first Palestinian to be deported since the 1980 exile of two West Bank mayors and a religious leader.

On Monday, Palestinians in the village of Beitin, four kilometres northeast of Ramallah, hoisted the Palestinian flag and chanted anti-Israeli slogans in protest against the deportation.

U.S. officials said Tuesday that U.S.-Soviet talks would not contribute to peace in the region unless Moscow changed its attitude to Israel.

He told reporters the Soviet Union had to reestablish diplomatic ties with Israel, broken in 1967, before it could play a positive role in the area.

So far, he said, Soviet involvement in the Middle East had "endangered peace."

The U.S. would probably broach Soviet arms deliveries to Libya, which Washington brands a "terrorist" state, and urge Moscow to exert influence on its ally Arab ally Syria to help realise a peaceful solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Mr. Polyakov was expected to repeat a call for an international Middle East conference of all parties to the conflict, including the PLO, the sources said.

The U.S. administration has cautioned against expecting breakthroughs in the Vienna talks.

Soviet, American experts 'exchange views' on Mideast

VIENNA (Agencies) — Soviet and American experts Tuesday began a two-day exchange of views focussing on the Middle East that coincides with a flurry of diplomacy over the region.

The session, which began Tuesday at the Soviet embassy, represents the first direct contact between the superpowers on the Middle East for more than seven years.

U.S. officials said details of the discussions would remain secret and it was unlikely a communiqué would be issued at the end of the talks although statements might follow later in Washington and Moscow.

Officials describe the talks, which continue Wednesday at the American embassy in the Austrian capital, as an exchange of views on regional problems rather than negotiations.

Although they will focus on the Middle East they will also cover Afghanistan and the four-year-old Gulf war between Iran and Iraq.

Washington is represented by Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy, the State Department's top Middle East expert, and Moscow by Vladimir Polyakov, head of the Soviet Foreign Ministry's Near East Division.

Mr. Murphy is accompanied by an official from the National Security Council, which advises President Reagan on foreign and defence policy, and another from the U.S. embassy in Moscow, Mr. Polyakov is accompanied by officials of similar seniority.

Diplomats said the meeting indicated the United States might be willing to resume at least a low-key active role in the search for Middle East peace, dormant since U.S. peacekeeping forces were withdrawn from Lebanon last year.

U.S. officials said in Washington last week that the talks were mainly aimed at reducing the risk of U.S.-Soviet confrontation over the Middle East.

They coincide with a flurry of Middle East diplomacy and Western diplomats said last week's accord between Jordan and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) for a joint approach to Middle East peace was likely to be discussed.

Western diplomatic sources said Washington was likely to state its terms for attending formal Middle East peace negotiations with Soviet participation.

Judging from recent U.S. statements these would include pressure on Moscow to restore diplomatic ties with Israel and better treatment for Jews in the Soviet Union, they said.

An Israeli official said Tuesday that U.S.-Soviet talks would not contribute to peace in the region unless Moscow changed its attitude to Israel.

He told reporters the Soviet Union had to reestablish diplomatic ties with Israel, broken in 1967, before it could play a positive role in the area.

So far, he said, Soviet involvement in the Middle East had "endangered peace."

The U.S. would probably broach Soviet arms deliveries to Libya, which Washington brands a "terrorist" state, and urge Moscow to exert influence on its ally Arab ally Syria to help realise a peaceful solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Mr. Polyakov was expected to repeat a call for an international Middle East conference of all parties to the conflict, including the PLO, the sources said.

The U.S. administration has cautioned against expecting breakthroughs in the Vienna talks.

Operating now

See page 5

INSIDE

- * Kuwait elects new parliament today, page 2
- * Land-sea links between Jordan and Egypt to open in April, page 3
- * Why blame Islam for injustices to women, page 4
- * Promoting Jordan's public relations way, page 5
- * W. Germany chosen venue for European Championship, page 6
- * EC fails to agree on extra finance, page 7
- * 143 die in Spanish air crash, page 8

Lebanese face delays at new Israeli check-points

QASMIYEH BRIDGE, Lebanon (R) — As gunfire cracked in nearby hills, the villagers shuffled forward one by one to be searched by Israeli troops at this new front-line post in South Lebanon.

Forbidden to drive cars across, they carried suitcases and food parcels over a no-man's-land of gun emplacements and barbed wire for questioning by plainclothes Israeli security men in a bullet-riddled roadside shack.

Qasmiyeh Bridge, the Israeli army's forward position on the coast after its withdrawal from the Sidon area last Saturday, was a place of anxiety and frustration Monday for civilians travelling in and out of still-occupied parts of the South.

"The people here are very nervous because all this is new to them," said Mohammad Fawaz, an insurance agent travelling north to Beirut. "Everybody is asking each other what passes they need to get through."

Israeli troops and commandos clash almost daily in the South. The shooting clearly came from a nearby Shi'ite Muslim area inside Israel's new line, renowned for stubborn resistance.

In recent weeks Israeli troops have carried out repeated security sweeps in Shi'ite villages just south of the bridge, in which several people have been shot dead and many arrested.

Commandos have killed three Israeli soldiers since the Sidon pullback, bringing Israel's death toll since its 1982 invasion to 621.

Until Saturday, the coast road into the occupied South was controlled by an Israeli stronghold at the Awali River north of Sidon, where travellers could wait days and were often turned back if they lacked Israeli-issued passes.

Local people said delays in travel would almost certainly increase because Israeli troops, scared of mounting commando attacks, would tighten security checks at their new lines.

Fawaz, a Shi'ite from Tibnine, said that despite the tension Qasmiyeh was far preferable to an alternative route via the inland mountain village of Bateh through Fal-

angist and Druze held areas.

Travellers often had to bribe pro-Israeli militiamen of the South Lebanon Army (SLA) at Bateh to be sure of crossing, he said. "With the Israelis, you don't have to give them money, but with the SLA you cannot be sure," he said.

SLA men at Bateh exact regular tolls on traffic as do Druze militiamen north of the crossing.

Further inland from Qasmiyeh, traffic had been waiting all morning Monday at a newly-fortified Israeli front-line position at the village of Zifita, west of the Shi'ite town of Nabatiyeh.

Waiting motorists read newspapers and ate snacks by the roadside as Israeli troops and SLA militiamen questioned a lorry driver.

A Lebanese Red Cross ambulance, its emergency lights flashing and a patient inside, waited 20 minutes for permission to cross.

An SLA man poking a stick between sacks of cement on the lorry said it could not pass. As it reversed past the queue, a driver said: "You can't argue. They start shooting if you do."



REGENT VISITS PRIME MINISTRY: His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Tuesday confers with Prime Minister Ahmad Obaidat at the Prime Ministry (Petra photo)

Kuwait elects new parliament today

KUWAIT (R) — Kuwait elects a new parliament Wednesday amid charges by the emir's brother that some candidates depicted their Gulf country as "a lawless land of cowboys" to win votes.

Only 56,848 men, 3.5 per cent of Kuwait's 1.7 million people, are eligible to choose deputies for the next four-year term of the 50-seat National Assembly. There are 231 candidates.

Sheikh Fahd Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah, quoted Tuesday by the English-language Arab Times, rebuked candidates for their criticism of government handling of the economy, its past attempts to alter the constitution, and the restricted franchise.

"There are things wrong, but not to the extent claimed by candidates. The election manifests of some show Kuwait as a lawless land of cowboys," he said.

The assembly, the only elected parliament in Gulf Arab countries, can influence the rule of the emir, Sheikh Jaber Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah, by initiating legislation and altering government bills.

Kuwait's economy, hit by lower oil prices, the Iran-Iraq war and a stock market crash in 1982 which left over \$90 billion of post-dated cheques in default, has been a central issue in the election campaign.

In an effort to revive the economy, the cabinet this week approved measures, including steps to strengthen the banking system and stock market, which diplomats believe will help to alleviate the crisis.

Arab Nationalists, who formed an effective opposition in the 1970s, are attempting a comeback after failing to make an impact in the 1981 election.

They want a clearly defined economic policy and what they call a just solution to the stock market debt crisis, while opposing any moves to amend the constitution and give the ruling family greater powers.

The government sought reforms in the outgoing assembly to give the emir emergency powers when parliament is in recess. But the plans were withdrawn after fierce opposition.

Sheikh Fahd, in his remarks to the Arab Times, conceded that Kuwait's democratic process was too restricted.

"If we want a true democracy such as that at work in the United States or the United Kingdom, we should allow political and religious parties to vote freely and grant women the right to vote," he said.

Feminist demands for electoral rights have provoked fiery public debate. But the demands were turned down by the outgoing assembly and a recent poll showed that over half the eligible voters also rejected the idea.

Official sources, quoted Tuesday by the Arabic daily Al-Rai Al-Aam, said all government ministers would tender their resignations to the emir on Saturday, but were expected to remain in office until a new cabinet was formed.

Libyan paper urges support for IRA, RAF

TRIPOLI, Libya (AP) — A leading newspaper called Monday for Libya to arm, train and assist the Irish Republican Army (IRA) and Red Army Faction (RAF) as retaliation against Western countries who harbour anti-Qadhafi "terrorists".

The former boxer, who converted to Islam in 1964, has been in Beirut since Saturday on a mission to try to secure the release of four Americans and a Saudi Arabian diplomat who were kidnapped from the streets of west Beirut in the past year.

The shadowy "Jihad Islami" organisation, or Islamic Holy War, which is believed made up of fundamentalist Shi'ites, has claimed responsibility for the kidnappings of the Americans.

Revolutionary Committees. The Revolutionary Committees are Libyan leader Col. Muammar Qadhafi's ideological storm troops who have vast powers to arrest and execute suspected foes of the regime.

Col. Qadhafi has consistently denied that his country supports terrorists as the United States has charged. But he does admit providing aid for "liberation forces."

The editorial warned that the Western countries either "band over the criminals hostile to our people... or we will pay them in kind and in this case it will be their own fault and it will be a grave loss."

The paper accused the three countries of providing arms and training to the "terrorists" and of sending "them to our country for acts of killing, assassination and sabotage."

JANA said the editorial appeared under the headline: "Bader-Meinhoff: Anytime." The Bader-Meinhoff, also known as the Red Army Faction, is a leftist, West German terrorist group.

It said the Libyan people must also "adopt" the Irish Republican Army, which has been battling for years to wrest mainly Protestant Northern Ireland away from Britain and unite it with the overwhelmingly Roman Catholic Republic of Ireland to the south.

Libya to make up shortfall in U.S. aid to Sudan

BEIRUT (R) — Libya, a strong critic of the Sudanese government, has offered it financial assistance in the event of delays in U.S. aid payments, the official Libyan News Agency JANA said Tuesday.

A Libyan Foreign Ministry source said Libya was displeased with what it called U.S. suspension of aid to Sudan and would make up the shortfall, said JANA, received in Beirut.

The U.S. State Department said Monday that some aid for Sudan had been delayed while Washington considered Sudan's economic reform programme, but hinted that "encouraging" reforms could lead to a resumption.

But the department did not confirm a Washington Post report that \$194 million in aid payments had been suspended. It stressed the delays would not affect food aid to refugees and Sudanese hit by the Saharan drought.

The Libyan Foreign Ministry source told JANA that Libya resented American attempts "to interfere in the religious beliefs of the Muslim Sudanese people."

"Believing any infringement of the dignity and freedom of Arab people in any of their homelands infringes the dignity and freedom of all Arabs, Libya is ready to provide aid to Sudan equal to what American had been paying," he said.

He added that the United States had set "humiliating conditions... to compromise the religious beliefs of the Arab people in Sudan."

The New York Times reported that Saudi Arabia, West Germany and Britain had joined the United

States in delaying aid payments to Sudan because of the economic and political situation there.

Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak has urged Washington to reconsider its decision to delay funds for Khartoum, saying it would be a mistake for the U.S. to suspend aid payments.

Sudan's President Jaafar Numeiri in September 1983 introduced Sharia (Islamic) Law and some aspects of its application, such as public hangings and amputations of limbs, have drawn criticism from the West.

In London a British fact-finding team said Tuesday distribution of relief aid to starving millions in Sudan is being hampered by bureaucracy.

Dennis Canavan, who visited Sudan with a group of British parliamentarians, said there were long delays in getting food to famine-stricken areas of the vast country.

"Someone should bang a few heads together to get things moving," Mr. Canavan told reporters at London's Heathrow Airport.

Sir Anthony Kershaw, leader of the team, said enough aid was reaching Sudan but logistical problems were hindering distribution to the country's one million refugees and local famine victims.

He said there were an estimated four million Sudanese in danger of starvation.

He urged the British government to press on with its aid programme to Sudan. "The fact that we have spent £30 million (\$33 million) so far is not an argument to stop there."

Curfew imposed on Shi'ite villages after 2 Israelis killed

TEL AVIV (AP) — Israel troops clamped a curfew Tuesday on several Shi'ite Muslim villages in the area of South Lebanon where a colonel was killed a day earlier in a roadside ambush, Israel Radio said.

The radio said curfews were imposed in the area of Aarab Salim, four kilometres north of the market town of Nabatiyeh.

Col. Avraham Hido, 41, was a senior advisor to the 2,000-member South Lebanon Army and was travelling Monday with another liaison officer, a deputy South Lebanon Army commander and six aides, Israeli newspapers reported.

The military command said commandos fired a rocket-propelled grenade and small arms fire at an Israeli unit Monday. Col.

Hido jumped from the vehicle, returned fire and was fatally wounded, the newspapers reported.

Military sources said only that troops in the area of the village were searching for Col. Hido's attackers.

Another officer, Maj. Shaul Zehavi, 27, was killed earlier Monday when a bomb exploded next to an Israeli convoy in the village of Bazouriyeh, eight kilometres east of Tyre.

The attack occurred at almost precisely the spot at which another Israeli soldier, 23-year-old Shimon Abramov, was killed Sunday by a roadside bomb.

Three Israeli soldiers have been killed in South Lebanon since the Israeli army completed the first stage of its three-stage withdrawal from Lebanon on Saturday.

AOSM chief leaves for Arab council meeting in Tunis

AMMAN (Petra) — The secretary-general of the Arab Organisation for Standardisation and Metrology (AOSM), Dr. Mahdi Hannouch, leaves Amman Wednesday for Tunis to attend the 38th session of the Arab Economic and Social Council (AESC) due to be held there from Feb. 23 until Feb. 27.

The Arab League has already received a memorandum on Jordanian laws and regulations pertaining to the marketing of West Bank products and Gaza citrus fruits.

Mr. Hannouch will later pay a visit to Turkey, upon an invitation from the Turkish Institute of Metrology.

TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION

MAIN CHANNEL
17:00... Koran
17:10... Cartoons
17:30... Children's Programs
18:00... Baker Street Children
18:30... Sport
19:30... Programme Review
19:40... News Program
19:50... News
20:00... News in Arabic
20:30... Arabic Series
21:30... Programme Review
21:40... Arabic Series
23:00... News in Arabic

FOREIGN CHANNEL

18:00... French Programme
18:20... News in French
19:00... French Programme
19:30... News in Hebrew
20:00... News in Arabic
20:30... Documentary: About China
21:10... Documentary on Hollywood
21:40... News in English
22:30... The Hotel

RADIO JORDAN

355 KHz, AM & 99 MHz, FM & partly on 95.60 KHz, SW

07:00... Light Music
07:30... News
08:00... Morning Show
08:30... News Summary
09:00... Morning Show Cont.
11:00... Pop Session
12:00... News Summary
12:45... Pop Session Cont.
13:00... News Summary
13:30... Pop Session
14:00... News Bulletin
14:10... Instrumentals
14:15... The Young Squad
15:00... Concert Hour
15:00... News Summary
15:05... Instrumentals
15:30... Old Favourites
17:00... Jordan Weekly
17:30... Pop Session
18:00... News Summary
18:05... Over a Cup of Tea
18:30... Arab Music
19:00... News Desk
19:30... Date with a Star
20:00... Evening Show
21:00... News Summary
21:05... Evening Show Cont.
21:30... News Summary
22:00... Evening Show Continued
23:00... News Summary
23:05... Evening Show Continued
23:57... News Headlines
24:00... Close Down

BBC WORLD SERVICE

639, 720, 1413 KHz

06:00 Newsdesk 06:30 Waveguide 06:40 Book Choice 06:45 Financial News 06:55 Reflections 07:00 World News 07:05 24 Hours: News Summary 07:30 What's New 07:45 The World Today 08:00 Newsdesk 08:30 Omnibus 09:00 World News 09:05 24 Hours: News Summary 09:30 The World Today 09:45 24 Hours: News Summary 10:00 World News 10:05 24 Hours: News Summary 10:30 The World Today 10:45 24 Hours: News Summary 11:00 World News 11:05 24 Hours: News Summary 11:30 The World Today 11:45 24 Hours: News Summary 12:00 World News 12:05 24 Hours: News Summary 12:30 The World Today 12:45 24 Hours: News Summary 13:00 World News 13:05 24 Hours: News Summary 13:30 The World Today 13:45 24 Hours: News Summary 14:00 World News 14:05 24 Hours: News Summary 14:30 The World Today 14:45 24 Hours: News Summary 15:00 World News 15:05 24 Hours: News Summary 15:30 The World Today 15:45 24 Hours: News Summary 16:00 World News 16:05 24 Hours: News Summary 16:30 The World Today 16:45 24 Hours: News Summary 17:00 World News 17:05 24 Hours: News Summary 17:30 The World Today 17:45 24 Hours: News Summary 18:00 World News 18:05 24 Hours: News Summary 18:30 The World Today 18:45 24 Hours: News Summary 19:00 World News 19:05 24 Hours: News Summary 19:30 The World Today 19:45 24 Hours: News Summary 20:00 World News 20:05 24 Hours: News Summary 20:30 The World Today 20:45 24 Hours: News Summary 21:00 World News 21:05 24 Hours: News Summary 21:30 The World Today 21:45 24 Hours: News Summary 22:00 World News 22:05 24 Hours: News Summary 22:30 The World Today 22:45 24 Hours: News Summary 23:00 World News 23:05 24 Hours: News Summary 23:30 The World Today 23:45 24 Hours: News Summary 24:00 World News 24:05 24 Hours: News Summary

VOICE OF AMERICA

MW 1200, SW 7200, 9565, 11740, 11925 & 13210 KHz

06:00 VOA Morning News. Informal Press analysis of Popular Music with Features, Reports, Interviews, Answers to Listeners' Questions, Science Digest, Sports News at 30 minutes past the hour. 17:00 News 17:10 Newsdesk 17:30 Music USA 18:00 News 18:10 Focus 18:30 Special English News and Features 18:40 News 18:50 Newsdesk 19:00 Magazine Show 20:00 News 20:10 Focus 20:30 Special English News and Features 21:00 News 21:10 Newsdesk 21:30 Music USA 22:00 News and Editorial 22:15 Music USA Jazz 23:00 VOA World Report

WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS

EXHIBITIONS

* Art exhibition by Mohammed Baillat and Jamal Khayyat, at the Jerusalem Hotel. The exhibition includes 104 plates representing the Palestinian tragedy, Sabra and Shatila massacres.

* A Cultural Art Festival, at the Housing Bank Complex.

* An exhibition of plastic arts by Maha Syouf at the University of Jordan Library.

* Korean photo and traditional handicrafts exhibition, 4:00 p.m. at the Royal Cultural Centre (RCC).

* An exhibition about the Jordanian fauna and animal life at the French Cultural Centre (FCC).

* A lecture on the coral reefs of Aqaba, 6 p.m. at the French Cultural Centre (FCC).

* Doctor Mäshheideh Fagnor, 8 p.m. at Goethe Institute of Amman.

* Today's Events

* Cultural Centres

Royal Cultural Centre. Tel: 6610267
American Centre 44371
American Cultural Library 41520
British Council 36147-8
British Library 36147-8
Goethe Institute 41993
Soviet Cultural Centre 44203
Spanish Cultural Centre 24049
Turkish Cultural Centre 39777
Haya Arts Centre 665195
Hussein Youth City 667181
Y.W.C.A. 41793
Y.W.M.A. 664251
Amman Municipal Library 36111
University of Jordan Library 843555

06:45... Fajr
06:15... (Sunrise) Duha
11:00... Dhuhur
12:30... Asr
12:45... Maghreb
18:00... Isha

06:45... Fajr
06:15... (Sunrise) Duha
11:00... Dhuhur
12:30... Asr
12:45... Maghreb
18:00... Isha

06:45... Fajr
06:15... (Sunrise) Duha
11:00... Dhuhur
12:30... Asr
12:45... Maghreb
18:00... Isha

06:45... Fajr
06:15... (Sunrise) Duha
11:00... Dhuhur
12:30... Asr
12:45... Maghreb
18:00... Isha

06:45... Fajr
06:15... (Sunrise) Duha
11:00... Dhuhur
12:30... Asr
12:45... Maghreb
18:00... Isha

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Alia International Airport at the Queen Alia International Airport. Tel: (08) 532520, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

07:40... Karachi (PK)
08:30... Agaba (R)
09:30... Agaba (R)
09:45... Dubai, Abu Dhabi (R)
10:00... Kuwait (R)
10:30... Beirut (R)
10:45... Cairo (R)
11:00... Abu Dhabi, Doha (GA)
11:15... Kuwait (KU)
11:30... Jeddah (SV)
11:45... Rio de Janeiro, Lisbon (R)
12:00... Copenhagen, Geneva (R)
12:30... Los Angeles, Chicago, Vienna (R)
12:45... London, Paris (R)
13:00... New York, Amsterdam (R)
13:05... Bucharest, Istanbul (R)
13:10... Rome (R)
13:15... Paris, Damascus (TA)
13:30... Bangkok (R)
13:45... Cairo (R)
14:00... Madrid, Geneva (R)
14:15... Beirut (R)
14:30... Frankfurt, Damascus (LH)
01:10... Baghdad (R)

DEPARTURES

06:30... Istanbul, Amsterdam (KLM)
06:50... Damascus, Frankfurt (LH)
07:00... Beirut (R)
07:15... Agaba (R)
07:30... Agaba (R)
08:45... Abu Dhabi, Karachi (PK)
09:00... Damascus, Rome (Alitalia)
11:20... Cairo (MS)
12:00... Belgrade, London (R)
12:05... Larnaca, Zurich (R)
12:30... Doha, Abu Dhabi, Muscat (GA)
12:45... Bahrain, Doha (R)
13:00... Kuwait (KU)
13:15... Jeddah (SV)
13:30... Baghdad (R)
13:45... Cairo (R)
14:00... Dhahran (R)
14:15... Bahrain, Doha (R)
14:30... Jeddah (R)
14:45... Sana'a (Y)
15:00... Abu Dhabi, Dubai (R)
15:15... Cairo (R)
15:30... Baghdad (R)

06:45... Fajr
06:15... (Sunrise) Duha
11:00... Dhuhur
12:30... Asr
12:45... Maghreb
18:00... Isha

06:45... Fajr
06:15... (Sunrise) Duha
11:00... Dhuhur
12:30... Asr
12:45... Maghreb
18:00... Isha

06:45... Fajr
06:15... (Sunrise) Duha
11:00... Dhuhur
12:30... Asr
12:45... Maghreb
18:00... Isha

06:45... Fajr
06:15... (Sunrise) Duha
11:00... Dhuhur
12:30... Asr
12:45... Maghreb
18:00... Isha

06:45... Fajr
06:15... (Sunrise) Duha
11:00... Dhuhur
12:30... Asr
12:45... Maghreb
18:00... Isha

06:45... Fajr
06:15... (Sunrise) Duha
11:00... Dhuhur
12:30... Asr
12:45... Maghreb
18:00... Isha

06:45... Fajr
06:15... (Sunrise) Duha
11:00... Dhuhur
12:30... Asr
12:45... Maghreb
18:00... Isha

06:45... Fajr
06:15... (Sunrise) Duha
11:00... Dhuhur
12:30... Asr
12:45... Maghreb
18:00... Isha

06:45... Fajr
06:15... (Sunrise) Duha
11:00... Dhuhur
12:30... Asr
12:45... Maghreb
18:00... Isha

06:45... Fajr
06:15... (Sunrise) Duha
11:00... Dhuhur
12:30... Asr
12:45... Maghreb
18:00... Isha

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Alia International Airport at the Queen Alia International Airport. Tel: (08) 532520, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

07:40... Karachi (PK)
08:30... Agaba (R)
09:30... Agaba (R)
09:45... Dubai, Abu Dhabi (R)
10:00... Kuwait (R)
10:30... Beirut (R)
10:45... Cairo (R)
11:00... Abu Dhabi, Doha (GA)
11:15... Kuwait (KU)
11:30... Jeddah (SV)
11:45... Rio de Janeiro, Lisbon (R)
12:00... Copenhagen, Geneva (R)
12:30... Los Angeles, Chicago, Vienna (R)
12:45... London, Paris (R)
13:00... New York, Amsterdam (R)
13:05... Bucharest, Istanbul (R)
13:10... Rome (R)
13:15... Paris, Damascus (TA)
13:30... Bangkok (R)
13:45... Cairo (R)
14:00... Madrid, Geneva (R)
14:15... Beirut (R)
14:30... Frankfurt, Damascus (LH)
01:10... Baghdad (R)

DEPARTURES

06:30... Istanbul, Amsterdam (KLM)
06:50... Damascus, Frankfurt (LH)
07:00... Beirut (R)
07:15... Agaba (R)
07:30... Agaba (R)
08:45... Abu Dhabi, Karachi (PK)
09:00... Damascus, Rome (Alitalia)
11:20... Cairo (MS)
12:00... Belgrade, London (R)
12:05... Larnaca, Zurich (R)
12:30... Doha, Abu Dhabi, Muscat (GA)
12:45... Bahrain, Doha (R)
13:00... Kuwait (KU)
13:15... Jeddah (SV)
13:30... Baghdad (R)
13:45... Cairo (R)
14:00... Dhahran (R)
14:15... Bahrain, Doha (R)
14:30... Jeddah (R)
14:45... Sana'a (Y)
15:00... Abu Dhabi, Dubai (R)
15:15... Cairo (R)
15:30... Baghdad (R)

06:45... Fajr
06:15... (Sunrise) Duha
11:00... Dhuhur
12:30... Asr
12:45... Maghreb
18:00... Isha

06:45... Fajr
06:15... (Sunrise) Duha
11:00... Dhuhur
12:30... Asr
12:45... Maghreb
18:00... Isha

06:45... Fajr
06:15... (Sunrise) Duha
11:00... Dhuhur
12:30... Asr
12:45... Maghreb
18:00

NEWS IN BRIEF

Team to study municipalities

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Ahmad Obeidat has decided to set up a special committee to prepare a working paper on the condition of municipalities in Jordan. The committee comprises the under secretary of the Ministry of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment, the director of the Cities and Villages Development Bank, the director of the Budget Department and the secretary general of the Ministry of Planning.

Cabinet endorses sea safety agreement

AMMAN (Petra) — The cabinet Tuesday endorsed an international agreement on the safety of life at sea. It also authorised Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri to sign the agreement on behalf of the Jordanian government.

Rawabdeh opens two gardens

AMMAN (Petra) — Amman Mayor Abdul Ra'ouf Al Rawabdeh Tuesday opened a "teachers garden" near Samir Rifa'i School in Prince Mohammad Street. The garden, set up on a five-dunum area, will be provided with facilities for children's games soon, the mayor said. The mayor also Tuesday opened a garden adjoining Princess Aliya Girls School in Jabal Lweibdeh.

WAJ delegation leaves for Paris

AMMAN (Petra) — A delegation from the Water Authority of Jordan (WAJ) left Amman Tuesday for Paris upon an invitation from the French centre for external trade. The delegation, headed by WAJ Secretary General Mahmoud Talhouni, will visit a number of factories which produce materials related to the work of the authority.

Health team to attend Nairobi conference

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Health will participate in the conference marking the end of the United Nations International Decade for Women, due to be held in Nairobi during July. The ministry will present a working paper on health services provided to women, especially to pregnant women and nursing mothers. A team of doctors and specialists, headed by Dr. Mohammad Bashir, will represent Jordan at the conference.

Art, crafts fair extended

AMMAN (J.T.) — An arts and crafts fair has been extended to end on Thursday Feb. 28 to allow more people to see the items on display, according to an announcement by Mr. Mohammad Abu Zaid, the fair's director. He said that the extension came in response to requests by the public and in view of the influx of people visiting the fair. The decision is expected to allow people from outside Amman to come to the fair which was organised by the Housing Bank in cooperation with the Haya Arts Centre and the Jordan Artists Association. Mr. Abu Zaid said.

Court sentences hashish smoker

AMMAN (Petra) — The military court has sentenced Ibrahim Mohammad Mahmoud Abdul Wahid to six months in prison for smoking hashish. The military governor has endorsed the sentence.



MOHAMMAD VISITS ARMY CORPS: His Highness Prince Mohammad, the personal representative of His Majesty King Hussein, Tuesday made an inspection visit to the headquarters of the artillery corps and a number of units. He watched training exercises by army units and heard a briefing by their commanders on the training programmes. Later, Prince Mohammad visited a field air defence unit and was briefed on its training of troops and the weapons used. (Petra photo)

Southern Jordan Valley area receives agricultural, social development projects

KARAK (Petra) — The southern part of the Jordan Valley, where 90 per cent of the inhabitants work in agriculture, is receiving considerable attention from the government, according to Ghor

Al Sali District Director Yousef Adailah. He told Jordanian News Agency, Petra, that the Jordan Valley Authority (JVA) is currently executing a large-scale project for the irrigation of the south of the Jordan Valley which aims to develop agriculture in that area.

He said the project, which employs modern irrigation systems, will help the reclamation of land for farming. Mr. Adailah said that JVA has allotted plots of irrigated land for farmers to establish their farms and to build their homes on.

He said that while some people in remote areas still drink water from running earth-channels, the authority has supplied some settlements with piped water and is using water tanks to transport

water in villages accessible by road.

The authority has built schools for boys and girls, teachers hostels, medical clinics and a medical centre at Ghor Al Sali in addition to medical services provided by the police and other companies operating in the area, he said.

Mr. Adailah said that social, health and education development in the region and the provision of roads, electricity and water is attributed to the establishment of the potash project, the irrigation and the development of the valley.

Municipal and village councils in the region have completed the opening and asphalted of many roads in their areas, while the municipality of Ghor Al Sali has completed the building of a commercial centre, he added.

UNEP expert lauds Jordan's protection of the environment

AMMAN (Petra) — A visiting specialist from the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) has paid tribute to Jordan for the role it plays in combating pollution and protecting the environment.

Dr. Abdul Rahman Abdullatif, who is visiting Jordan in the course of a tour of Arab states and Asia,

said that the department of environment together with municipalities around the country and other organisations in Jordan have been cooperating in this respect and the results are exemplary.

Jordan has hosted several seminars on the environment in which more than 500 research projects on the subject were reviewed.

Trade minister opens products fair in Manama

Land-sea link between Jordan, Egypt to open in April, Anani says

DUBAI (J.T.) — A land-sea route linking Jordan with Egypt will be opened in April as a first step towards launching joint economic ventures, Minister of Industry and Trade Jawad Al Anani was quoted as saying in Dubai Tuesday.

He said that the new route will later be linked with the Gulf region and all Arab states in Asia and will form a bridge for economic cooperation between these countries, thus contributing towards their development.

The minister told Al Bayan newspaper here that Jordan will also be linked with Egypt through an electric network in Sinai after a huge power station will be established to generate 1,200 megawatts annually, more than double Jordan's present power needs. This station will produce cheap electrical power because coal will be used instead of oil to drive its

generators, the minister added. Dr. Anani said that the two countries will establish two Jordanian-Egyptian joint companies that will organise maritime transportation between Aqaba and Nuweibah ports. Both ports, lying about 70 kilometres apart, will be greatly developed for this purpose, the minister pointed out.

In the interview, Dr. Anani called on Arab countries to increase and bolster trade cooperation between them, and invited businessmen from Arab and foreign countries to invest in Jordan, which offers incentives and guarantees profits under very gen-

erous terms, he said.

Talks in Bahrain

Dr. Anani, who went to Bahrain from Abu Dhabi on his current tour in the Gulf, Tuesday opened a five-day exhibition of Jordanian products in Manama. Later, he held talks with Bahraini Minister of Industry and Development Yusuf Ahmad on promoting bilateral trade, the exchange of expertise in industry and tourism. Following the talks Dr. Anani said that the two sides agreed to exchange exports of aluminium, oil products and fertilisers.

Dr. Anani later met with Bahraini Prime Minister Sheikh Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa and said later that they reviewed bilateral relations and ways to bolster cooperation between Jordan and Bahrain in trade and economic fields.

Almost everything you want (or need) to know about Jordan's finance sector

Financial Sector in Jordan, Multi-Client Study A.M. 24, published by Shair Management Services, Amman, Jordan (1984), 262 pp., JD 38.

By Rami G. Khouri
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — For a country with such a proficient, well staffed private sector, Jordan has produced relatively few in-depth studies of major sectors of the national economy.

The pattern that has long pertained in Jordan is that major economic studies are produced either by the government, by local or foreign academics, or by foreign bodies such as the World Bank, the IMF, foreign lending agencies or the embassies of foreign governments that have contributed substantially to Jordan's development effort.

A new study of the Jordanian financial sector recently published by the local firm of Shair Management Services suggests that Jordanian private companies have a major role to play in providing in-depth, independent analyses of the economy. The country could well use more such independent analyses, to spur the debate about trends in social and economic development.

The Shair study, entitled "Financial Sector in Jordan," is the most comprehensive study yet published about the banking and finance system in Jordan. For anyone seriously interested in an overview of the financial sector and its recent growth and diversification during the past decade, this is the best starting point that I know of.

This is largely a quantitative piece of work, tracing the growth of the financial sector in terms of both the sheer volume of business and the growth in the number and new kinds of institutions that have emerged onto the local scene in the past decade of often hectic economic growth.

More analysis needed

One would hope that future edi-

tions of the study would include more analysis to explain the reasons behind the trends that have taken place. Serious students of the financial sector would also benefit from a greater treatment of external factors that directly effect the local financial sector (such as monetary policies in the Arab oil-producing states and their effects on the remittances of Jordanians abroad, effects of non-financial sectors such as real estate, the role of tax policy in influencing savers and borrowers, how international interest rates influence the policies of local banks and large investors, and foreign exchange movements in the major international currencies).

Despite these comments, I would recommend this study to any economist, student, economic journalist or business person who deals seriously with the Jordanian banking and finance sector. At JD 38, this study is obviously aimed at a specific market of business people and serious students of the economy.

BOOK REVIEW

The study starts with an overview of the Jordanian economy, tracing the pattern of growth and reliance of local resources since 1973, the balance of payments, and public finance.

It then discusses "the framework of Jordanian monetary policy" in chapter two, looking particularly at trends in the money supply.

Chapter three looks at the growth of the commercial and merchant banking system and the Jordanian capital market, which grew about ten-fold during the past decade. There are some good analyses here of the Central Bank's increasingly interventionist monetary policies during a decade that saw all-

erating years of rapid growth. A

brief slowdown, resumed growth, and finally a relatively sustained recession that still dominates the economy today.

Particularly useful in this chapter are tables the Shair Management Services team compiled on the consolidated profit and loss statements of local and foreign commercial banks and merchant banks in Jordan. These tables, unavailable anywhere else as far as I know, provide a handy means to compare the market shares of Jordanian and foreign banks.

Chapter four deals with the largely state-run specialised financial institutions, tracing their absolute growth and their lending to different sectors of the economy.

Chapter five analyses the 33 insurance companies now operating in the country, and the effects of the recent changes in the law governing them.

The last chapter discusses the development of the Jordanian stock exchange, formally known as the Amman Financial Market.

Useful tables

There are also some more useful tables at the end of the study, providing a convenient comparison of all the sub-sectors that make up the entire Jordanian financial sector, and thereby providing a quantitative measure for the entire financial sector, including the local, foreign and state-owned banks, the insurance companies, the real estate development companies and the stock exchange.

The study draws heavily on the statistical information provided in the monthly bulletin published by the Central Bank of Jordan, though there are some extremely useful new tables that have been painstakingly compiled by the Shair Management Services team.

This is one of a series of new studies that the Shair company has produced on different sectors of the Jordanian economy. Other studies treat the goods transport (trucking) sector, and the construction industry.

French centre displays abundant, varied Jordanian wildlife

By Meg Abu Hamdan
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The French Cultural Centre, under the active directorship of Mr. Bourdais, has over the last few months staged a series of unusual and often extremely interesting exhibitions. Their latest offering however, which opened yesterday Tuesday, is perhaps the best yet as it gives via live and stuffed examples, an idea of some of the different types of the abundant, yet generally little-known about wildlife that is found all over Jordan.

Held in cooperation with Yarmouk and Jordan Universities, the Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature, the Ministry of Tourism and the Aqaba Marine Science Station, the show is divided into four sections which show some of the mammals, reptiles and birds found in the differing environments of the Jordanian desert, the Azraq oasis, Aqaba and the Jordan Valley.

Aquarium

Although all the sections are riveting — children would especially enjoy the displays — the highlight of the exhibition must be

the aquarium in which swim a few of the many thousands of different species, vertebrates and invertebrates, found in the waters of Aqaba. Set up by the Marine Science Station under the supervision of Dr. Jean De Vaugelas, it consists of an exquisite arrangement of living, hard, reef building types of coral, in and out of whose crevices and fingers darts a black and white damselfish, a richly coloured rainbow wrasse, a trigger fish, a butterfly fish, the poisonous chicken fish with its array of brown and white tentacles, a small crab, a coral shrimp who obligingly removes the parasites from the gills of fish, and last of all a small but rather vicious-looking moray eel.

As well as setting up beautiful aquariums for educational purposes — their permanent aquariums in Aqaba have become one of the sites to see — the Aqaba Marine Science Station, which was founded in 1973, has many other important roles. One is to study the effects of pollution on the reef and how to combat it, to research on the coral reef environment of Aqaba and how it differs from coral reefs in other parts of the world, particularly those found in the Pacific and the Caribbean, and to give advice on coastal man-

agement.

Desert birds, animals

The task of setting up the rest of the exhibition was that of Darwish Shif'ie from the Natural History Museum at the Yarmouk University from where all the exhibits were drawn. Set as realistically as possible among stones and sand representing the arid environment of the desert are such desert living creatures as the jael, the hare, the small Ethiopian hedgehog, and gerbils. The resident birds of the desert are represented by the sand partridge, the vulture, the black wheatear, the horned and crystal lark and by the unique *Tristram's Grackle* which exists only in South Jordan and Palestine. Very little is known about this rare bird except that it nests high in the rocks with one life-long partner, feeding off the ectoparasites of larger mammals such as the camel.

As well as many different types of lizard of which only the spiny tailed lizard and the chameleon are shown, there are many types of snakes, both venomous and non-venomous, which live in the desert. On display in glass boxes are two small but very poisonous species of the *Cerastes* family and another non-poisonous



The kestrel, found in the Ghor and the surrounding mountains, can be seen at the wildlife exhibition.

snake called a *Malopis*. Both types look very similar but if you look closely — something you wouldn't really care to do if you came face to face with one out in the open — you can see that the poisonous snakes have more triangular shaped heads, thinner necks and cat-like eyes.

Azraq oasis

With 285 different species of birds either resident there or just passing through, the Azraq oasis receives more migratory birds than any other place in the world. The most spectacular migratory species must be the stately night and grey herons and the internationally protected white stork, examples of which are all on show. Some species of birds that were once migratory — like the coot, the moorhen and the lapwing have now become residents at the oasis.

The mammals found around the oasis are also rather more spectacular than those found in the desert, hardly surprising since the latter have to endure a harsh and dry environment. Striped hyenas and Arabian wolves can still be seen whereas the once numerous dorcas and reem gazelles, like the Arabian oryx exist only in the Shomera Wildlife Reserve. In another glass box in this section lurk two small but formidable creatures — a yellow and a black scorpion.

In the Ghor and the surrounding mountains many more

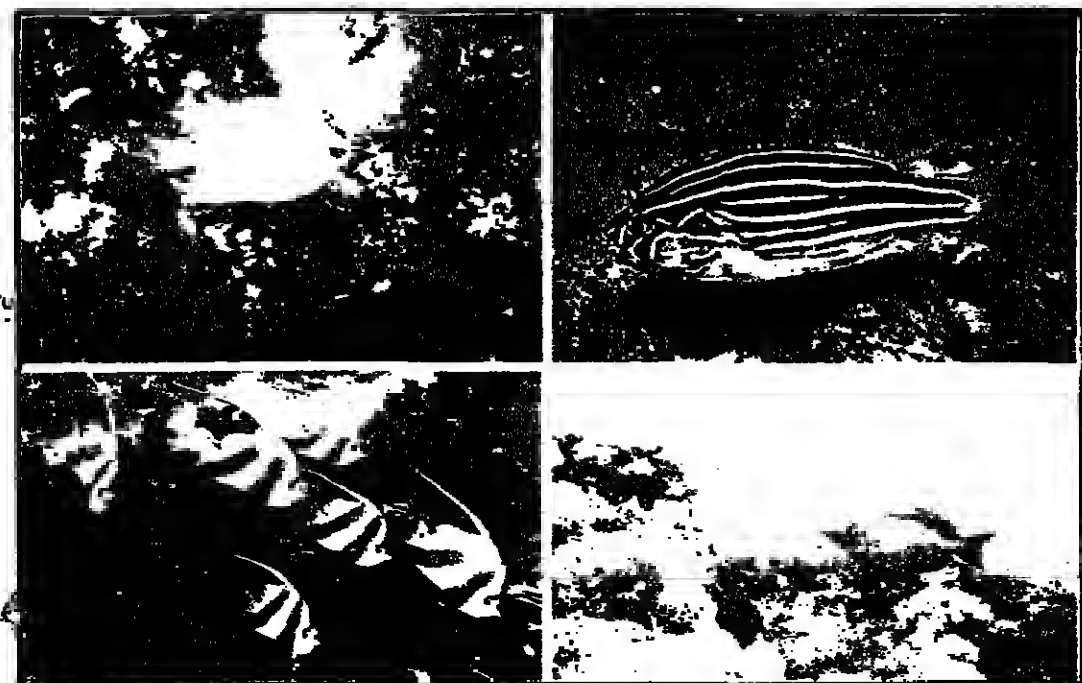
mammals can be seen like the mongoose, the wolf, the budger, the European hedgehog — bigger than its desert relative — and tortoises. There are also many types of more familiar birds like the common sparrow, the ubiquitous starling and pigeon, the gull, the barn owl, the partridge and the kestrel.

Reptiles also abound in this area, like the large desert monitor whose liver the Bedouins use as an antidote to snakebite with good results. However, it would probably provide little protection against the bite of the *Viper* *Palestina* whose venom is so lethal it usually proves fatal within minutes.

Supporting the displays of these stuffed mammals, reptiles and birds are large coloured photographs of the animals as they are seen in the wild along with distribution maps.

Complementary lectures

During the course of the exhibition which runs until March 2, several lectures will be given. On Wednesday Feb. 20 at 6 p.m., Dr. Jean De Vaugelas will be talking about the corals at Aqaba. On Saturday Feb. 23 at 6 p.m., Dr. Ahmad Disi from the University of Jordan will deliver a lecture on the fauna and biotop of Jordan, and on Wednesday, Feb. 26 at 6 p.m., Mr. Pierre-Francois Mazaud will talk about the biology and medical importance of scorpions and snakes.



Some of the varied and beautiful fish species found in the Gulf of Aqaba can be seen at the aquarium section of an exhibition of Jordanian wildlife at the

French Cultural Centre. Top left, Damselfish; top right, six-line Grouper; bottom left, Angel fish; bottom right, Big Eye fish.

سلكا من الاصل



Desperate, again?

IT IS almost universal truth these days to say that the United States must play a more active role in the Middle East if current diplomatic moves are to lead to renewed hopes for Arab-Israeli peace talks. We are intrigued, but not fully convinced, by this view.

For as long as the Arab-Israeli conflict has existed, the Arab leaderships have consistently called for a more "balanced" American policy in the Middle East as the essential prerequisite to promoting more realism and flexibility in Israel. The evidence tends to suggest precisely the opposite.

Except for the freak episode in 1956/7 when the United States more or less ordered Israel to withdraw from the occupied Sinai, American policy in the Middle East has generally been moulded by the combination of Israeli dictates, and the pressures of Israel's lobbies and friends in the United States. Rarely has the United States done anything that could be construed as being critical of Israel, or against Israeli interests. When this has happened, it has usually been a temporary, symbolic act of almost no political substance — such as "suspending" arms deliveries for a few months.

It could be argued by folks more naughty than ourselves that whenever the United States became actively involved in Arab-Israeli diplomacy, the scene was set for a future catastrophe for the Arabs. We are therefore puzzled to hear so many Arab voices today again calling for an enhanced American role in the region. Are the Americans perceived as a substitute for Arab and Israeli clarity on peace positions, or a complement to them?

The Americans are a problem, to be sure. But the real problem is in the Israeli mentality that refuses to recognise Palestinian rights to self-determination, and views the Middle East only in terms of its own military security. Unless we can induce a change in Israeli thinking, calling on the Americans to help looks rather like a desperate and futile move.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Vatican knows Israel well

ISRAELI Prime Minister Shimon Peres has gone to the Vatican hoping to persuade Pope John Paul II to establish relations with the Zionist state. We are really surprised at what Israel is trying to achieve, knowing well that its actions and crimes have been condemned by most world nations and the Vatican itself.

It should be emphasised that the Pope realises the real situation now prevailing in the occupied Arab territory and knows all about the organised terrorist actions waged against the Islamic and Christian people there and the measures being taken to evict the remaining Arabs from their homes in Palestine. The Vatican believes that the land of Palestine is holy and should serve as an oasis of tolerance and affection among all human beings, and has no doubt realised that Zionism was trying to transform this land into an arena of hatred and criminal actions.

The Vatican realises the dimensions of Israel's inhuman actions against the people of the Arab land, the torture of innocent civilians, the demolition of homes and the eviction of inhabitants from their homes.

The Vatican is well-advised about the massacres of Sabra and Shatila, Deir Yassin and other areas of occupied territory, and, above all, realises that the whole Middle East question, which has been the source of world tension for so long stems from the Palestine problem. This is reason enough for us to believe that the Vatican will never condone Zionist actions and reward Israel with recognition.

Al Dustour: Can Peres answer European leaders' questions?

THE CURRENT tour of Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres in Europe and his talks in Rome and in the Romanian capital with leaders there indicate that Israel has begun a campaign to counter one launched by the Arabs to achieve peace. Whereas the Arabs have met with understanding and sympathy in many of the world's capitals for their endeavours, the Israeli premier is not likely to make any success if he insists on presenting the same political cliché to the European leaders.

Peres is sure to tell his hosts that Israel is willing to hold peace talks with each Arab state without prior conditions and hopes through this declaration to win more support for his stand and to show the Arabs as the party which rejects peace bids. But, in fact, Peres will find it difficult to convince these hosts of his views because they will be asking questions which would make it impossible for him to answer.

Among these questions are: Why does Israel reject the idea of convening an international peace conference under U.N. supervision to try to achieve peace? Why does Israel continue to build settlements on Arab territory and pursue a policy of torturing Arabs and evicting the local inhabitants from their homeland? Why does Israel reject peace proposals like the one offered by President Reagan and continues to deny the Palestinians their right in their homeland?

It is indeed difficult for Israel to market its views in Europe and, therefore, the Arabs have a duty to make every possible effort to thwart Israel's attempts which contradict the logic of peace.

Sawt Al Shaab: Superpowers would discuss international conference

THE IDEA of an international conference on the Middle East has won support from many world nations and is only opposed by Israel and the United States. This idea, which was the brainchild of the Soviet Union, will certainly be one of the topics to be tackled by the superpowers at the Vienna meeting opened Tuesday.

Although an American spokesman had described the Vienna meeting as one for exchanging views, yet it is illogical to believe that the two nations would only be satisfied with that exchange of views and that they would allow world tension to persist without doing anything about the many problems that cause this tension.

No doubt the Middle East question is one of these causes of tension and it is certain that the superpowers had exchanged views about the issue so often that they have found it was time to do something about it, because this issue threatens world peace and security.

Why blame Islam for injustices to women?

By Musa Keilani

UNIVERSITY GRADUATES have always played a vital role in reshaping Arab societies. Often they cultivated positive trends, sometimes they restructured certain courses and all the time they rejected obsolete values and negative customs. The pioneering role they played is well recognised by the people since this nation broke the shackles of foreign rule and its tranquillising impact on all aspects of energising transformation. Arab graduates have always been the nucleus of a driving force blueprinting a new society to come. They were the ones who formed underground political societies and the ones who championed the liberation movements and the struggle for independence.

The graduates' conference in more than one Arab country was the cornerstone in achieving their countries' independence and their people's political rights.

Arab women have always

contributed their share within the general contest of a liberation movement. This week Jordan hosted a seminar sponsored by the "Arab Women Graduates". The repercussions created by this seminar are reflected in the heated debates published by the Arabic dailies in Amman. Dr. Izzat Al Azizi, from Yarmouk University, and Mrs. Toujan Faisal from the Arab Women Graduates exchanged heated arguments regarding the main topic of this seminar. The main issue is Islam and the status of women. How far Islamic are the laws, by-laws and statutes governing the family life, divorce, marriage and polygamy. The Tunisian delegation defended Islamically the banning of polygamy. Other Arab delegations defended a wife's right to divorce her husband, quoting Islamic precedents from the Sharia and tradition. The Arab Women Graduates were tactically mas-

terful in manipulating the support and mobilising the backing of some highly respected Sharia professors and mufitis. All participants admitted the miserable sufferings of Arab women and the need to redress the injustice they have been enduring for centuries.

But the fact remains that the injustices to Arab women is not a Koranic dictum or a prophet's order. It is the outcome of certain economic, social, political and psychological conditions. Those socio-economic conditions are not confined to the Arab World but to Latin America, India and many "Third World" countries. Those evils did not originate in Islam. If a reform has to be implemented, the roots of those socio-economic conditions have to be eradicated. At the root is poverty, which makes an Arab incapable of feeding and clothing his family properly while few individuals are enjoying all privileges. At

the root is the political repression which denies an individual his basic rights. A victim of such a suffocating atmosphere is incapable of creating an amicable relationship of love and mutual respect with his wife. His frustrations find an outlet at home when he returns home carrying with him his disgrace and wounded pride. Socio-political repression renders a man incapable of love, sympathy and tenderness towards his wife and children. It is the same socio-economic factor which makes a woman endure a husband's tyranny, cruelty and rough treatment because she knows that life without a bread winner is more miserable, cruel, and degrading.

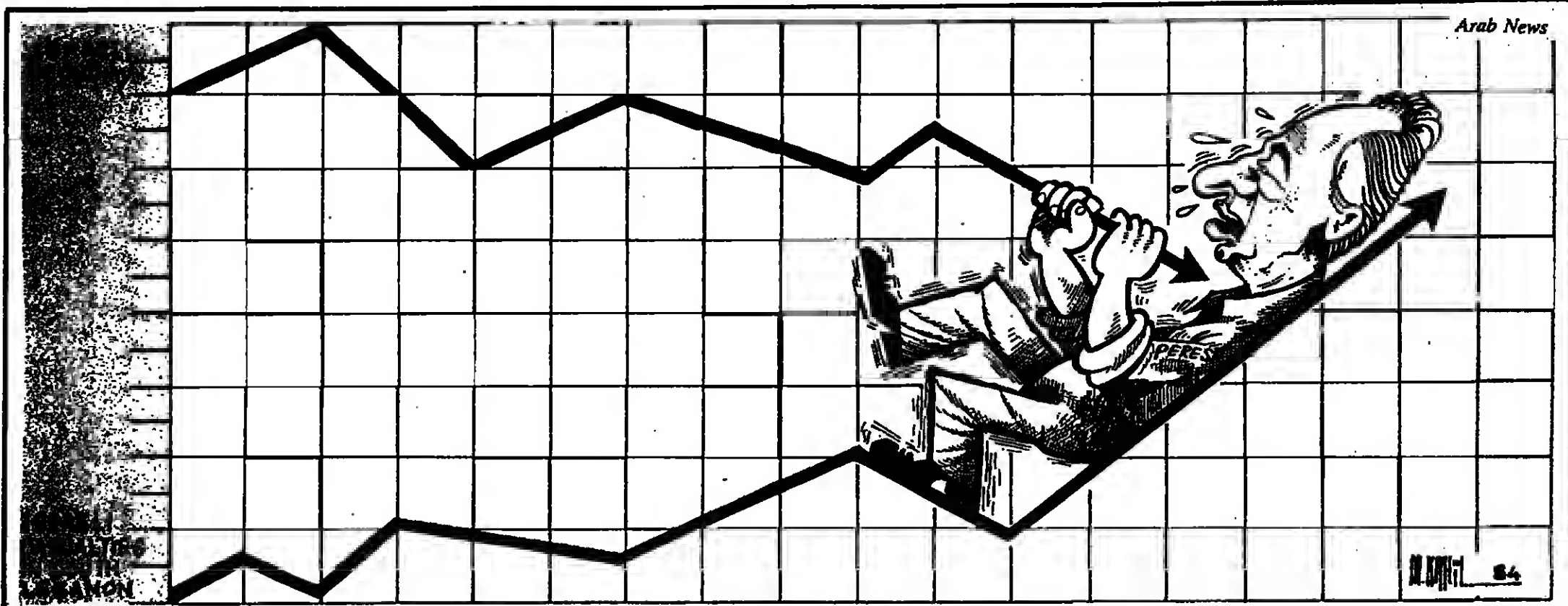
The humiliation of Arab women has nothing to do with Islam or the Koran. The prophet says unequivocally: "The best among Muslims is he who is best to his wife." (Tirmizi collection of Nabawi hadith).

Islam in the sixth century elevated women into a high plane of being not cherished by other women in Europe, Persia, Asia or Byzantium. The Holy Koran specifies, "consort with them in kindness" (4:19). When pre-Islamic society denied a woman her status as an equal to man, and robbed her of any right to inherit property or run material business, the Koran said: "To the man belongs a share of that which parents and near relatives leave, and to a woman a share of what parents and near relatives leave" (4:7) and "to men a fortune from that which they have earned and to women a fortune from that which they have earned" (4:32).

Koranicly, Islam gave women their right as an equal human partner since the sixth century before any other law. Islam gave women their right to economic independence and participation in social life directly. Education of Muslim

women was obligatory. Women were given the right since then to arrange for their own marriage.

That is why Arab women had prominent roles during the early years of the Islamic state. They greatly contributed to the general welfare of their societies politically and socially. Leaders, politicians and heads of ideological schools. The centuries of foreign occupation reduced the woman into a low plane of existence. But undoubtedly the same socio-economic factors reduced the man into an equally low plane of existence. To redress so many injustices we have to eradicate the roots of oppression. An effort must be done to reinvigorate the Koranic principles which are the only ones to uproot the misery and to restructure a new role for Arab women identified with the soul and spirit of the Holy Koran, which is a humanitarian liberation force for all women.



U.N. at 40 expected to attract biggest-ever summit

By Michael Littlejohns
Retier

UNITED NATIONS — The United Nations turns 40 next October and is planning a birthday summit session that U.N. officials hope will counter disillusionment with the world body.

For security reasons, the officials will say little about the dozens of world leaders expected to attend the session, intended as the climax of the 40th anniversary celebrations.

But it seems likely they will include President Reagan and French President Francois Mitterrand, British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and possibly Soviet leader

Constantin Chernenko.

The last Soviet chief to visit here, in 1960, was Nikita Khrushchev, whose shoe-pounding heckling of British Prime Minister Harold MacMillan is well remembered at the U.N., as was Mr. Khrushchev's bear hug for another visitor, Fidel Castro of Cuba.

Dr. Castro had only recently revealed his Marxist allegiance, the Soviet Union was angry at the United States over a spying incident in which a U.S. spy plane was downed over Soviet territory, and all the powers were uneasy about the post-independence crisis in the Congo, now Zaire.

The session was marked by acrimony and uproar. At one point, General Assembly President Frederick Boland broke his gavel valiantly trying to restore order.

Present Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar hopes for a peaceful, constructive commemorative session this year, to conclude with states adopting a declaration of re-dedication to the U.N. Charter on Oct. 24, the date in 1945 when it went into force.

Mr. Perez de Cuellar is conscious of disappointment with the United Nations in some countries, particularly the United States.

He and other senior officials hope the attendance of world leaders

in a symbolic show of their support may help allay many private citizens' negative perception of the world body.

Assistant Secretary-General Robert Muller, a veteran French official who is in charge of planning the commemoration, says the U.N. has had to contend with such perceptions from its earliest days, even when hopes for its peacekeeping potential were at their highest.

President Harry Truman signed the U.N. Charter only reluctantly in 1945, shortly after the atomic bombing of Nagasaki. Mr. Muller recalls.

But the U.N. official cited a

study by Harvard Professor Louis Sohn of post-war political incidents and crises which found that in about 50 per cent of cases "the U.N. has been able to solve problems or prevent serious outbreaks".

Responding to critics like U.S. Ambassador Jeane Kirkpatrick who say the U.N. exacerbates conflicts and those who believe the world would be better off without the organisation, Mr. Muller drew a medical analogy.

"Not everyone who enters a hospital comes out cured," he said. "But no one has ever said we should do away with hospitals." He said he was pleasantly sur-

prised by Prof. Sohn's analysis and felt the U.N. had done a pretty good job.

The 40th anniversary ceremonies will get under way in June with three days of meetings in San Francisco, where the charter was completed on June 26, 1945. Vice President George Bush is expected to head the U.S. delegation.

Mr. Muller said several member states plan national celebrations but that the main focus will be on the event here in October. He stressed that this will go beyond the ceremonial and many of the high-level visitors are expected to use the opportunity for face-to-face talks about world problems.

Pol Pot: Deliberate low profile or late middle-age blues?

From Associated Press

BANGKOK — Where is Pol Pot, the Khmer Rouge leader who presided over one of the bloodiest revolutions of this century?

Only very sketchy reports and rumours have emerged about him since Dec. 8, 1979, when he was interviewed by Japanese journalists at a guerrilla camp inside Cambodia.

Some Western Indochina watchers believe Pol Pot disappeared from public view because his name has become synonymous with the Cambodian holocaust of 1975-79, when hundreds of thousands, perhaps millions, died in Cambodia under Khmer Rouge brutality.

The Khmer Rouge, fighting the Vietnamese who ousted them from power in early 1979, are all-

ied with two non-communist groups, and their coalition government seeks Western and Chinese support.

Khieu Samphan, who currently heads the Khmer Rouge, said in December 1983 that Pol Pot was "responsible" for military operations against the Vietnamese, but was not a member of the three-party coalition government. A year earlier, Khieu Samphan said Pol Pot headed the Khmer Rouge military but sometimes "has fever."

A knowledgeable Thai military source says Pol Pot — who is in his late 50s or early 60s — was hospitalised in late 1982 and early 1983 in one of Bangkok's biggest private hospitals, Phayathai, for high blood pressure and diabetes.

The source said he was admitted under a false name. The hospital's medical director, Dr. Surapong Ambha Nwong, said he had no knowledge of the treatment but indicated it was possible that a false name might have been used.

Unconfirmed reports and rumours in recent years have had Pol Pot making trips to China, the prime supporter of the Khmer Rouge, and spending time at the Chinese embassy and elsewhere in Bangkok. Thailand also backs the coalition government.

The most solid reports say Pol Pot spends most of his time in the rugged Cardamom Mountains of southwestern Cambodia, from where he commands the Khmer Rouge army or, as it is ironically known, the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea.

Ek Chun, a low-level civilian official who defected from the Khmer Rouge last October, said in an interview that while Pol Pot's name was never mentioned, it was widely understood that he still wielded ultimate power within the movement and that Khieu Samphan was merely a figurehead.

This kind of secrecy has shrouded the life of Pol Pot, whose real name is Saloth Sar and whose birthdate is variously given as 1925 and May 19, 1928.

Saloth Sar studied radio electronics in Paris, fled Phnom Penh in 1963 to join the anti-government insurgency and headed the Khmer Rouge in the 1970-75 war against the U.S.-backed government of President Lon Nol.

He also headed the Cambodian Communist Party, which he ruthlessly purged of his real or suspected enemies, a number of reliable Western sources say.

He became premier in April 1976. By then, Cambodia had been turned into a vast labour camp stalked by hunger, disease and mass executions.

LETTERS

What ever happened to 'Knight Rider'?

To the Editor:

I'm a visitor in this country and speak virtually no Arabic, so I'm very thankful that JTV has its foreign channel and Radio Jordan in its English service.

On rainy days, such as the one last Friday, Feb. 15, I enjoy switching on something, settling back in a comfortable chair, losing myself in whatever happens to be on.

Well, on Friday I did switch on something, "Knight Rider," and was soon lost in the fantasy of a computerised car that walks, talks and scans. Everything was fine for about three quarters of the show and then I was confronted by visions of over zealous soccer fans travelling to a game with sticks and knives in an obviously overloaded truck. Now there was real fantasy especially since this was supposed to take place in Jordan.

I slowly recovered from this abrupt shock to my senses and rationalised that this was just another public service message and that the conclusion of "Knight Rider" would soon be on. Well, the public service message ended and there I sat waiting for the conclusion of Knight Rider... it never came.

I then decided that a little FM stereo music would be the order of the day. Slipping on my headphones, I switched on Radio Jordan's English service, got the stereo indicator nice and bright, settled back with eyes closed for better enjoyment. Everything went fine for about 30 seconds, after that the stereo signal drifted so much that it was actually painful to try and listen to it.

Deciding that perhaps the weather wasn't really as bad as it seemed, I slipped, slid and was virtually blown out of the house. I have a question: Did the computer scientist and his beautiful accomplice ever rob the Federal Reserve Bank? Oh yes, while we're at it, what were the lyrics to that song?

Dennis Wright,
Amman

Timing of Zimbabwe elections appears doubtful

By Peter Gregson
Retier

HARARE — Zimbabwe's parliament has adjourned to pave the way for a general election, but doubts have emerged over whether Prime Minister Robert Mugabe's poll deadline of next month can be met.

A number of government officials and election workers are privately questioning if the elections can even take place before the fifth anniversary of independence on April 18, and one prominent senator has called for them to be postponed.

Registration of the approximately 2.8 million voters could not be completed by the scheduled closing date of Jan. 31 and was extended until mid-

February.

This means a four-member delimitation commission set up to divide the country into constituencies could not start work for at least another week.

In the poll, 80 seats will be openly contested. A further 20 constituencies reserved for whites until 1990 under the British-drafted Independence Constitution make up the 100-seat (lower) House of Assembly.

Last month, Mr. Mugabe told the House he was committed to a March poll. "We must work towards the holding of our elections in March. That is the target date... If we have to wait 48 hours a day, we must do so," he said.

Mr. Mugabe added that there must be "no talk of a reversal or postponement. We are in a hurry and the sooner we commit ourselves the better."

But only the day before parliament adjourned, Senator Garfield Todd called on the prime minister to reconsider.

Sen. Todd, a former prime minister of Southern Rhodesia who was jailed by the rebel white minority government during the 1970s for his outspoken opposition, told the Upper Chamber: "I ask myself why we are holding an election? I have no answer."

"The weather is wrong, we have time at our disposal, the security position is grim, our political situation cries out for rationalisation and pacification."

Sen. Todd called for the poll to be postponed until 1987, which can be done on the vote of 70

members of parliament, adding: "Tension would be relieved, people could concentrate on caring for their coming harvest, electioneering in the rains would cease immediately and we could all breathe more freely."

Election officials said current heavy rains, which have broken three years of drought, had caused some delays but there were also other obstacles to staging the poll before April.

One worker at the government printers estimated it would take at least two months with the presses running 24 hours a day to print all the lists of voters.

A technical adviser to the government, who asked not to be named, said he doubted the delimitation commission could do its work in time.

Promoting Jordan the public relations way

By Salameh B. Ne'matt

AMMAN — It does not take a lot of money, big offices and experts to promote Jordan abroad in the field of tourism, according to Mr. Fawzi Ali Arafat. "It only takes dedicated and determined Jordanians who really love their country and are ready to sacrifice a bit."

Within a relatively short period of time, Mr. Arafat, a journalist,

was able to make Petra, Jerash, Aqaba and other tourist sites in Jordan well-known places throughout Scandinavia and "this is only the beginning."

Mr. Arafat is the president of the Jordan Association of Travel Journalists (JATJ), an association established in September last year and endorsed during a general

assembly conference in Cyprus of the Paris-based Federation Internationale des Journalistes et Ecrivains du Tourisme (FIJET).

The JATJ, which includes 20 members out of which 15 are journalists and five prominent Jordanian personalities dealing with the media and tourism, was established with the aim of introducing Jordan as a country with a great potential for tourism to the rest of the world.

"During my travel with FIJET members, the idea of establishing the JATJ became clear, and I decided I can promote my country abroad by allowing Jordanian journalists to travel to other countries and represent Jordan in tourism conferences," Mr. Arafat, who lives in Sweden, said.

Every member of JATJ is automatically a member of FIJET, which is also a non-profit organisation whose main aim is to encourage tourism among member countries. The international organisation includes 41 countries in its membership, and Jordan is so far the only Arab country represented.

In each member country, an association for travel journalists is established and coordinate its work directly with FIJET through an exchange of visits among member countries by journalists who return home to promote the country they visited through the media.

In October, only one month after the establishment of JATJ, the association invited 20 Scandinavian journalists, members of FIJET to Jordan on a study trip to acquaint them with tourist sites in the country. During their stay, they were received by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, who encouraged the JATJ idea.

Upon the return to their respective countries, the journalists published a lot about Jordan in local newspapers which gave a considerable impact on the people there. The Swedish radio broadcast two programmes — one about the Royal Family, Amman and the daily Jordanian life and another programme dedicated to the old Nabatean city of Petra.

"Petra and other places in the Kingdom have become famous in Scandinavia," says Mr. Arafat. "Upon the return of these journalists, people were showered with articles on Jordan published in newspapers in Hungary, France, Sweden and Finland."

Mr. Arafat said that in December last year, the board of directors of FIJET held a meeting in Paris during which they received a report from the Federation's General Secretariat on the journalists' visit to Jordan. After reading the report, FIJET sent a cable to Prince Hassan asking him to accept the post of Honorary President of JATJ, while the Scandinavian journalists sent a

thank-you letter to the Prince saying, "We want to come back to your country."

FIJET, established in 1954, includes 1,600 journalists from 41 countries in its membership and holds an annual general assembly conference in a different member country each year. The Federation also issues a bi-monthly international tourism magazine financed by Hungary and published in Brussels and distributed all over the world.

FIJET is scheduled to hold its general meeting this year in Belgrade, Yugoslavia and in 1986 in Havana, Cuba. Mr. Arafat said that JATJ hopes to have the FIJET conference of 1987 convened in Amman. We are already preparing for it, and we expect to host more than 150 FIJET journalists from 40 countries," he said.

"One of our ideas for the conference is spending a night in Wadi Rum among bedouin tents to give the journalists a unique experience," Mr. Arafat said.

He added that the conference would be supported by Alia, the Royal Jordanian Airline which will be offering free tickets to the visiting journalists while hotels in the country will offer them free accommodation during their stay in the Kingdom.

One of the achievements of JATJ is securing a section for Jordan in an international tourism



His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan receives a Swedish-made crystal bowl as a present from JATJ President Fawzi Ali Arafat last October during a visit by 20 Scandinavian journalists, whom the prince received (Photo by Jan Kristenson)

fair to be held in Sweden in March free of charge, Mr. Arafat said. About 70 countries will be participating in the fair, called Tour 85, and 300 journalists from different countries including Jordan will be attending.

Like FIJET, JATJ does not receive any financial support from the government. "Our activities are carried out with the cooperation of institutions from the private sector," Mr. Arafat said.

"The idea of JATJ is not to have the government spending because the private sector is the party which benefits directly from such activities."

He explained that when tourists visit a country, "they do not stay in government houses but in hotels owned by the private sector... they rent cars from private companies and eat in private sector restaurants... as the private sector is directly benefitting from tourism."

However, he said, "we still need the backing of the government."

Asked why tourists should have a special interest in Jordan when the choice is wide in this field, Mr. Arafat said: "People are beginning to get tired of travelling to the same places all the time. When they discover there are places like Petra, Aqaba, Jerash and Wadi Rum in Jordan... they will welcome the change."



Petra, the site

The needs of youth should be satisfied

By The Reverend Musa Adeli

THIS is the year of the youth. This brings many things to my mind concerning our young people. Are we, I wonder, doing enough for them? I am thinking mainly in terms of their leisure time. There are surely few among us who have not at one time or another been annoyed by youngsters — boys and girls — playing in the streets; throwing balls in front of moving vehicles, breaking bottles with stones and generally fooling around. Yet, in all fairness we need to ask ourselves: "Why are we annoyed with them? What are they doing wrong? Youngsters must play; they must shout; they must throw things — all this is part

and parcel of their young nature. May he who should be annoyed with ourselves for not providing them with places to play at. Many of them live in apartments where there are no gardens. For such children the only playing area is the alley, the steps, the street, the pathway.

Very often boys climb the fences around private institutions, schools for example, in order to play in the playground. Understandably, they are chased away by those responsible for the school. They are told to go and play elsewhere. Where is elsewhere? One could ask. Looking to other countries,

what do we see? How do they cope with this situation — for all countries have youngsters. What I have found in many of these countries is that urban and rural planning gives full priority to recreational facilities as to housing when developing an area. For example before a building project is approved by the authorities, the whole area is looked at. To a certain number of houses there must be a school, a medical centre, shops, bank, post office, parks, recreational grounds, church, clubs and sometimes extra facilities like swimming pools may be slightly further away but well within easy walking distance. In other words, housing is not allowed to dominate. Looking at such

high organisation, we can see that everyone is catered for. The young mothers can walk safely down the park with their babies in prams and their toddlers running free. Older people can sit at these places safely and enjoy the fresh air and the life going on around them. Youngsters have a variety of places to go to. Everyone is able to get leisure and recreation without cost and this latter is a very important point. Many of our children live in poor areas, in poor houses. What a boon for them to have some wide open space to go to let off steam in safety and away from places where they annoy drivers and, worse than that, become a danger to themselves

and others.

What can we do about all this in Jordan? Is it something beyond us? I don't think so. For example, why not impose a condition that when high cost houses are built a certain charge is levied to go towards the facilities of the area. This would have two very valuable aspects to it. First, it would be of tremendous help to others who are less well off than ourselves and in so doing would be a real service to the area. Secondly, it would help us to move from what is probably an unconscious selfishness to a less selfish attitude and in this way we would indeed be doing a service to ourselves. Could we think about it?

N.America's waterfowl vanishing with wetlands

From National Geographic

WASHINGTON — About nine million ducks and geese visit California's Central Valley during fall, winter, and spring. The valley is regarded as one of the nation's most important wintering areas for waterfowl; 60 per cent of the Pacific migration route's waterfowl winter there.

Yet the Central Valley — a 400-mile-long trough between the Coast Ranges and Sierra Nevada — is more farmland than wetland. Once holding an estimated four million acres of wetlands teeming with wildlife, the Central Valley now is one of the world's most valuable agricultural regions. Since early settlement, 94 per cent of the valley's marshes have vanished.

Crucial routes

In the major waterfowl migration routes, or flyways, that funnel down out of Alaska and Canada through the lower 48 states,

there is a rich variety of wetlands: bogs, swamps, sloughs, tiny ponds and great marshes, river oxbows, saltwater bays and sounds and estuaries. They are essential to ducks, geese, swans, and shorebirds — and they are dwindling.

By current estimates, 33,000 acres of prime prairie wetlands vanish each year, writes naturalist John Madson in the November National Geographic. In the 48 states, nearly a half-million acres of wetlands are lost annually to farming and other development. About half of the nation's pre-colonial wetlands no longer exist, and certain duck species have declined with them.

From the "boot heel" of southeastern Missouri to the Gulf of Mexico, nearly seven million acres of hardwood forests and their associated wetlands have been drained in the past 50 years. In North Dakota, pond-size potholes gouged by glaciers serve as nurseries for half of all ducklings bred in North America, but farmers are

draining and filling them to increase cropland.

The great migratory clouds of waterfowl definitely can threaten a farmer's crop. During a cool, wet Canadian fall, for example, when harvest may be delayed, ducks gather in grain fields and glut themselves, trampling even more of the crop and leaving it wasted on the ground. Waterfowl feeding on cereal grains cause more than a half-million dollars' damage each year in Minnesota, North Dakota, and Montana.

Hunters take toll

A broken strip of coastline from Maine to South Carolina serves as the flyway each spring and fall for some of North America's greatest concentrations of waterfowl. All of the strip's historic hunting areas are reporting fewer birds. Canadian and U.S. hunters kill some 20 million game ducks a year, most commonly mallards, followed by wood ducks. But some

hunting license fees and federal duck stamp revenues go to acquire and preserve vital waterfowl habitat.

The wood duck, once a very rare bird, has made a solid comeback. Hunting and loss of nesting trees to timbering seriously threatened "woodies" until the U.S.-Canadian Migratory Bird Treaty gave it and others special protection in 1918. But several other species are in trouble today, especially canvasbacks, redheads, and black ducks.

This year, about half of North America's fall population of some 80 million ducks will not survive until next breeding season, many because of disease, predation, and accidents. At least two to three per cent of them will die of lead poisoning, caused by spent shot pellets picked up by the birds from marsh bottoms during feeding. One ingested pellet is enough to kill a bird.

Another kind of killer has struck California's San Joaquin

Valley. At Kesterson Reservoir, part of a refuge managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 20 per cent of 347 nests of stilts, coots, grebes, mallards, gadwalls, and cinnamon teal were found to contain deformed young. Some were missing beaks or eyes; others had bulging skulls or clubfeet. The cause is believed to be selenium, a natural element that can be poisonous in the high concentrations formed by California's irrigation practices.

But up in the northern Central Valley lie areas that are undisturbed, almost primeval. At the Bean Field, a 440-acre waterfowl haven, Madson saw "a veil of white-fronted and Canada geese, thousands of mallards, and pintails beyond counting. In the near distance, weaving back and forth over the Bean Field, small flights of sandhill cranes, a resilient species millions of years old, called to each other in their strange deep trilling — a sound right out of the Pliocene."

Home computers face bad times

The dawn of 1985 has found the world's home computer industry in the midst of considerable uncertainty, with the onset of a price war in the two leading markets. Jason Crisp in London and Louise Kehoe in California report from the heart of those two markets.

A bitter wind is blowing through the world's home computer industry. The year has started with a flurry of casualties and there is every sign that a price war has begun on both sides of the Atlantic.

This once brash and confident industry is now nervous and uncertain. Non one seems to know what 1985 will bring... other than trouble. "There are too many manufacturers with too many machines chasing too small a market and they are probably not the products people want," says Mr. John Rowland, computer buyer at W. H. Smith — one of Britain's leading outlets for home computers.

But the home computer is not to be written off as an amusing phenomenon on a par with skateboards. Rather, the questions which worry the industry include what sort of computers people will buy, which few companies will survive and whether the Japanese threat will ever materialise.

And although the two leading markets — Britain and the U.S. — face a difficult time, the rest of the world is just beginning to discover home computing. Sales in West Germany, France, Italy and Spain rose sharply last year. Even so only 600,000 home computers were sold in West Germany in 1984 according to market analysts Diebold, compared to an estimated 1.8 million in the U.K.

Moreover, as the general interest in using computers to play games wanes fast, the industry is currently scrambling to produce more expensive and more sophisticated machines. Now everyone is talking about selling "functions" on their computers such as word processing.

In the slightly longer term the industry still has high hopes that the home computer will become accepted as an all-purpose household item. Companies are developing a wide variety of new applications for computers — from terminals for electronic banking and shopping to controlling the electrical devices around the home.

Another popular idea is to store reference works and encyclopaedias on compact discs with the information being rapidly retrieved by the computer. Even-

tually the computers and interactive video discs will transform the educational and games markets and allow the storage of vast amounts of information.

Such applications are probably at least two years away according to John Sculley, chief executive at Apple. However, they are areas where the Japanese intend to try particularly hard to make an impact. They have already shown computers linked closely to video and hi-fi equipment. So far the direct Japanese presence in home computers has been a flop although Japanese companies have had considerable success with peripheral equipment such as printers and disc drives.

Some Westerners fear that from now on, Japanese skills with the peripheral equipment and traditional consumer electronics products such as TVs and compact discs may give them an advantage over companies which start only with the computer technology. Right now the industry is far more worried about who will survive the latest price war. In 1983 a similar battle in the U.S. resulted in Texas Instruments and Timex withdrawing from the market with huge losses.

The implications of any shake-out spread far beyond the well-known names making the computers like Sinclair, Commodore, Atari and Acorn. It will also affect the myriad of software companies, retailers, distributors, magazine publishers and manufacturers of peripherals like monitors and printers which form an equally important part of the industry.

It is already clear in the U.S. and U.K. — which are both well ahead of the rest of the world — that the market is dividing into two clear streams. In one are the cheap "toy" game-playing computers from Commodore, Sinclair and Atari costing about \$120 in the U.S. and around £130 in Britain. This stream is in the front-line in the price war and the latest casualty is Coleco in the U.S. which has just withdrawn from the market to concentrate on products like its Cabbage Patch Doll.

The other stream is wider, less easily defined and is the one with the most attractions. Increasingly, the machines in it have more in common with the personal com-

puters used in business. A number of new and impressive products are scheduled to appear later this year and that will probably mean fierce price-cutting in this sector too.

Included in this stream are everything from existing products like IBM's B.C. junior and Apple II computers in the U.S. costing around \$1,000 to Acorn's BBC Micro and Sinclair's Q.L. in Britain at about £400. Britain's increasingly successful ACT is on the fringe of this group with the bottom end of its Apricot range.

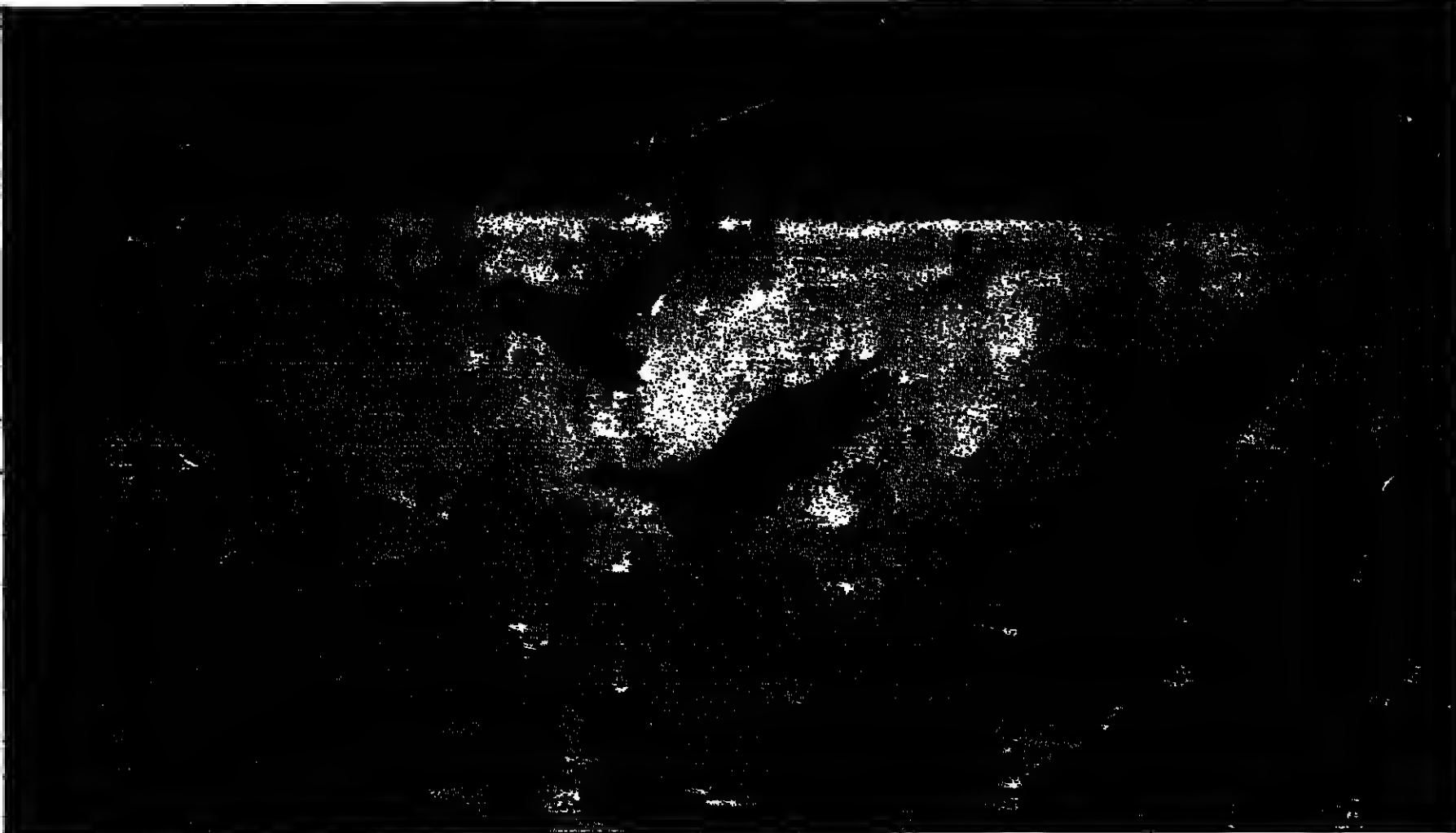
Many of these home and educational computers are already used in small businesses. Increasingly they will have disc drives for programmes and data storage which are much quicker and better than the audio cassettes used with cheap home computers. It means they can be used as proper word processors and for serious financial analysis.

Atari and Commodore of the U.S. have both promised new low cost computers for later this year which are claimed to rival Apple's Macintosh computer, a powerful and expensive machine largely aimed at business with a very strong emphasis on its ease of use. In Britain, for example, Amstrad, a recent and very successful entrant into the home computer market which buys many of its components from the Far East, is to launch four more powerful machines this year which include low-cost disc drives.

Mr. Alan Sugar, chief executive of Amstrad, says that demand is very strong in overseas markets. "The only country we are concerned about is the U.K. because the doom and gloom is making the dealers nervous. Computers are not like C.B. radio, a market which stopped as if someone had turned off a light switch."

The move towards these types of machines represents a significant change in the marketplace. "The home computer is on the verge of a new beginning," says Jan Lewis, an analyst at Infocorp of Cupertino, California. Until now, she believes, buyers have been motivated by fear and guilt. "They wanted to learn about computers because they felt they should keep up. They were afraid their children would be illiterate if they did not. Now people want computers that will do something useful."

— Financial Times news feature.



High-pitched yelps announce the arrival of lesser snow geese, the most vocal of all waterfowl, at Tule Lake National Wildlife Refuge on the California-Oregon border. California wetlands provide a winter home for perhaps 18 per cent of North American waterfowl. Wildlife refuges are becoming more crucial to ducks, geese, swans, and shorebirds as farming and development gobble up nearly a half-million acres of wetlands a year (National Geographic photo)

OPERATING NOW IN AMMAN

If you want to be served like being in a first class hotel, and live like being at home... pay us a visit:

DAROTEL داروتل

Amman, Shmeisani: Tel. 668193/4. Tlx: 23888

DAROTL JO. P.O.B. 9403

- * Luxuriously furnished airconditioned apartments
- * Fully-furnished kitchenettes
- * Colour T.V., indoor movies
- * Telephone, telex, secretarial services
- * Giftshop, restaurant, health bar.
- * Free: Ice cubes makers. Shoe-polish machines. Morning newspapers. Safe deposit boxes. Physical fitness room.
- * Other usual hotel services

W. Germany chosen venue for European Championship

BERNE, Switzerland (R) — West Germany justified their role as favourites to stage the 1988 European Championship soccer finals when the organising committee made them first choice ahead of England Monday.

The European Football Union (UEFA) said the organising committee's recommendation would be put to its executive committee for the final decision at its meeting in Lisbon on March 15.

The other two candidates were the Netherlands and a joint Nordic bid from Sweden, Denmark, Finland and Norway.

The English Football Association (F.A.) were confident their carefully-prepared case for hosting their first major international tournament since the 1966 World Cup would be irresistible.

But although F.A. Secretary Ted Croker had given firm assurances on crowd control, sources close to UEFA felt English hopes could still founder on the hooliganism that plagues the British soccer scene.

F.A. Chairman Bert Millichip, who presented England's case, countered that other countries including West Germany also had

their share of spectator violence.

The West Germans were equally confident, believing their outstanding modern stadiums could tip the balance in their favour in what was widely recognised in West Germany as a neck and neck duel with England.

Another factor which must have weighed heavily in West Germany's favour was that it had not staged the European Championship finals despite four previous applications.

They had offered 11 venues with stadiums modernised or built for the 1974 World Cup, with the final planned for Munich's Olympic stadium.

Yet they feared they might be edged out by England's status as the traditional home of soccer, and the fact that 1988 marks the centenary of the Football League and the 125th anniversary of the F.A.

West German Football Federation (DFB) press spokesman

Rainer Holzschuh said: "We are confident. We have a good infrastructure from the 1974 World Cup, our stadiums are comfortable and we have a good organisation."

The F.A. offer envisaged two plans, one using eight stadiums and the other nine, with Wembley as the venue for the final.

However, all is not lost for England. The final decision rests with the executive committee on which the West Germans have no representation.

Kenya's decision to drop African Games a hard blow, says SCSA

YAOUNDE (R) — Kenya's decision not to host the African Games in 1987 is a hard blow, the Secretary-General of the Supreme Council for Sports in Africa (SCSA), Lamine BA, said Tuesday.

He told Reuters the continent's governing sports body was canvassing a number of other African nations which might be willing to host the games, Africa's version of the Olympics, but he did not name them.

"It was an unpleasant surprise and a hard blow," he said when asked to comment on Kenya's decision to withdraw its offer to stage the fourth edition of the games.

Kenya's sports administrator Joseph Kipsanai told Reuters three days ago that an Olympic-

size sports complex being built with Chinese aid on the outskirts of Nairobi would not be ready in time for the games.

The games should have been held in 1983 but were postponed to 1987 to allow Kenya to complete work on the complex and hotel facilities.

Temesvari beats Fairbank

OAKLAND, California (R) — Eight-seeded Hungarian Andrea Temesvari fought off a set point to defeat South Africa's Ros Fairbank 7-5, 6-2 in the opening round of the Oakland Women's Tennis Championship Monday.

Temesvari, the world's 16th-ranked player, said she had had trouble adjusting to the indoor lights and was happy with her victory.

The Hungarian, who won the Italian Open in 1983, had a patchy season last year last season because of a back problem.

"I have no pain now," Temesvari said. "I just need to improve my concentration."

Others to advance to the second round included France's 19-year-old Catherine Tanvier who defeated 15-year-old Melissa Gurney of the United States 6-4, 6-3.

French skier killed by avalanche

ZERMATT, Switzerland (R) — A 22-year-old French skier was crushed to death by an avalanche following record snowfalls which have brought two days of chaos to western Switzerland, police said Tuesday.

The victim, the third since heavy snows began last Saturday, was named as Francois de Roux, Boulogne. He and the other two men in his skiing group were off the marked pistes at the time of the avalanche late Monday, a police spokesman said.

De Roux was dug out by his companions but could not be resuscitated. The three were flown by rescue helicopter to Zermatt, a famous resort at the foot of the Matterhorn Peak.

Walker reaches historic landmark

By Phillip Melchior
Reporter

WELLINGTON — Beads around his neck, a mane of blond hair bouncing and the distinctive black New Zealand singlet with the silver fern have been the trademarks of middle distance runner John Walker for more than a decade on the world athletics circuit.

Now 33, an age when most athletes have long since abandoned international competition, Walker has broken new ground by becoming the first man to run 100 sub-four minute miles.

Thirty-one years have elapsed since Britain's Roger Bannister broke the four minute mark for the first time, but some of the mystique still clings to the figure and it remains a landmark for aspiring mile runners.

Walker's achievements in becoming the first man to run a mile in under three minutes 50 seconds and his 1,500 metres gold medal at the 1976 Montreal Olympics ensure him of a place among athletics' immortals.

But it is his durability and consistency in one of athletics' most glamorous events which has made him one of the most respected and popular athletes on the international circuit.

Walker first rocketed into prominence in the 1974 Christchurch Commonwealth Games when his duel with Tanzania's Filbert Bayi in the 1,500 metres provided the athletics competition's most compelling spectacle.

Bayi was then at the peak of his form but he needed to summon all his resources of speed and stamina to hold off the young New Zealand runner for the gold medal.

Bayi set a world record in that event and a return clash with Walker in Montreal was eagerly awaited.

The African boycott of the Olympics following New Zealand's rugby union tour of South Africa deprived spectators of another classic encounter and no other athlete really had a chance of depriving Walker of the gold he so badly wanted.

In the meantime Walker had broken the 3:50 barriers when he clocked 3:49.4 in Oslo in 1975 and he was well-established as one of the leaders of the new breed of jet-setting athletes.

Walker, who was raised on a farm, divided his early sporting passions between cross-country running and tennis, until in 1970 he first ran on the track and met up with schoolteacher Arch Jelley, the coach who has guided his career since.

It quickly became apparent that New Zealand had a true heir to their two previous Olympic 1,500 metres champions, Jack Lovelock and Peter Snell, and until 1977 Walker's running career was one triumph after another.

Then came the series of injuries which would have ended the career of a less determined man. In 1977, days after he had for the second time come within half a second of the world 1,500 metres

record and failed to break it, Walker pulled out of the World Cup 1,500 metres in Dusseldorf to the jeers of a huge crowd.

The humiliation was hard to bear for a man who had been the darling of the European circuit but he had no chance to strike back. The next season, operations on his calf muscle meant he was not a contender for anything.

Against the odds and the pundits' predictions, he came back.

Walker was no longer the perpetual pre-race favourite, losing as often as he won. But he was back among the elite, running as fast as he ever had, and sometimes faster.

Walker's goal was the Moscow Olympics. Even if he was unlikely to end up on the medal stand, he wanted to be at the 1980 games to defend the title he had won four years earlier.

Since then Walker has settled as a circuit runner, heading off each year for Europe and North America, picking up prize money for places and the occasional win and good enough still to run his fifth sub-3:50 mile last year, nine years and 17 days after his first.

Walker's biographer Ron Patenaki believes the runner will be remembered as "probably the most durable miler the world has ever seen."

"There have been many faster and many more spectacular milers, but none have stayed up there at the top for so long," he told Reuters.

Skating marathon to go ahead for 1st time since 1963

AMSTERDAM (R) — One of the world's most spectacular skating events, a 200-km (110-mile) marathon around the northern Netherlands with about 16,000 competitors, will be held for the first time in 22 years after all, the organisers said. Conditions have been suitable for the Elfstedentocht, a tour of 11 towns in the north western province of Friesland, only 12 times this century.

Hopes had been fading that it could be held this year but a sudden spell of sustained cold weather had made ice on waterways thick enough for it to go ahead on Thursday, the organising committee said.

The Tocht attracts a core of experienced competition skaters and thousands of enthusiasts from northern Europe. About 200,000 spectators are also expected.

Only a few hundred of those starting are likely to complete the

race. Police said Tuesday they would operate a fleet of helicopters to ferry the injured and exhausted to aid stations and hospitals.

When the last Tocht was held in January 1963, only 156 of the 10,007 ordinary competitors finished. In the experienced skaters' section, 58 out of 577 completed the course.

The race was won by Dutchman Reinier Paping in 10 hours 59 minutes. Many others took 14 or 15 hours to finish.

This year, the organisers have allowed the number of competitors to rise to 16,000.

The start and finish is at the city of Leeuwarden, 120 kms (75 miles) north-east of Amsterdam. The group of a few hundred experienced competition skaters will start well before dawn. Each 15 minutes a further 1,000 competitors will start.

Louganis named Outstanding U.S. Amateur Athlete

INDIANAPOLIS, Indiana (R) — Diver Greg Louganis was named America's Outstanding Amateur Athlete of the Year Monday night.

The 25-year-old double gold medalist at the Los Angeles Olympics won the 55th annual Amateur Athletic Union Sullivan Award after a secret ballot. It was the sixth consecutive year that he was a finalist.

Runners-up included Mary Lou Retton, dubbed 'America's sweetheart' at the 1984 games after winning the all-around gymnastics competition. Retton, in intensive

training for the American Cup in Houston, was the only finalist who did not attend Monday night's ceremony.

The others present were gymnast Bart Conner, swimmer Rowdy Gaines, skier Bill Johnson, synchronised swimmer Tracie Ruiz, marathoner Joan Benoit, sprinter Valerie Briscoe-Hooks, equestrian Joe Fargis and wrestler Steve Fraser.

All also were gold medalists at the Los Angeles games — only the second time that all the finalists were Olympic champions.

Moorcroft recovers from operation

MUNICH, West Germany (R) — David Moorcroft, Britain's world 5,000 metres record holder, was recovering in hospital Tuesday after an operation which he hopes will get him back to serious running again.

Moorcroft, 31, told Reuters that he felt fine after Monday's operation to ease inflammation of the tendons around the lower part of the pelvis but that it was too early to make plans for the future.

"I'll just take things a day at a time," he said. "I'll have to wait for the soreness to go and then start to get active in the next month or two."

"But I expect it will be six to 12

months before I find out whether I can work hard again."

Doctors said the operation was similar to that for tennis elbow but that the problem involved the muscles around the pubic bone.

Moorcroft went to West Germany for the operation because Munich surgeon Karl Tasmady has vast experience of the injury, which occurs frequently among West German footballers.

Moorcroft, who is expected to return to Britain after 10 days of recuperation, finished last in the Olympic 5,000 metres final last year during a season largely wrecked by the injury.

DELUXE FURNISHED APARTMENTS FOR RENT

- Each apartment consists of two bedrooms, saloon and two bathrooms with independent central heating.
- European deluxe furniture.

LOCATION: Abdoun - Fifth Circle
Call tel: 818156 MR. KAWAR

FLAT TO LET

Very good flat near Holiday Inn Hotel to let. Living room, one bedroom, kitchen, bathroom, and small balcony. Fully-furnished including TV with European furniture. Short lease until August or longer possible. Rent JD 2,800 P.A. Tel: 818047

FOR RENT

Furnished apartment consisting of two bedrooms and other amenities.
Location: Jabal Amman, 4th Circle
Call: 671925

For This Term and Summer Term

روضة الساناف
SANAFER

MEMBER OF THE PRE-SCHOOL PLAY GROUP ASSOCIATION (PPA) IN LONDON (3, 4 and 5 years)

Shmelsani - Katana area, near Dar-El Hikmah Amman, Jordan. P.O. Box 1719. Tel: 679311

School hours 8 a.m. to 12 noon

BETTER READ IT

One visit only for our exhibition will assure you the difference between us and others in quality. New fashions at reasonable prices, all kinds of pure crystal, electrical candles, home and office furniture and steel safes of different sizes and weights which can withstand up to 450°C of temperature.

Address:

The Permanent Jordan Exhibition For International Products
Amman - Wadi Saqra Street
Tel: 32613, P.O.B. 150



PRE QUALIFICATION INVITATION FOR SUPPLYING MACHINES

Jordan Rock Wool Industries Co. Ltd.

Intends to construct a new complete full or semi automatic production line for rock wool preformed pipe insulation. Manufacturers and/or suppliers who are interested in tendering for the intended production line are invited to deliver their application with all proving catalogues and know-how description in this field, not later than March 21, 1985 at:

J.R.W.I. CO. LTD. - Jabal Amman, Third Circle,
Tel. 42117 Tlx: 23197 ROKWOL JO - Box 926932
Amman - Jordan.

FLAT FOR RENT

First floor.
Consists of two bedrooms, saloon, dining room, glassed-in veranda with central heating.

Location: Jabal Husseln, "Firas Circle"

Call tel: 678417, between 7 and 10 p.m.

SCANDINAVIAN SHOWROOM

- ★ Living rooms
- ★ Dining rooms
- ★ Bedroom sets
- ★ Wall units
- ★ Lighting fixtures
- ★ Club 8 for children
- ★ Modern Danish design
- ★ Feather upholstery
- ★ Danish-Pack Homes
- ★ Tax-free if applicable

The youthful style with an eye to the future

Tel. 663899 Civil defence street

To advertise in this section



Phone 666320

RESTAURANT CHINA

Airconditioned
The first & best Chinese Restaurant in Jordan
1st Circle, Jabal Amman, near Ahliyyah Girls School

Open daily
12:00 - 3:30 p.m.
6:30 p.m. - Midnight
Tel. 38968

CHINESE RESTAURANT TAIWAN TOURISMO

3rd Circle, Jabal Amman
Opposite Akliah Hospital.
PEKING DUCK & FLAMING POT FONDUE ARE OUR SPECIALITIES

VISIT SOON!
Open daily 12:00-3:30 PM
6:00 PM to Midnight
Tel. 41093

CHEN'S CHINESE RESTAURANT

Mecca Street, Yarmouk Engineers' Housing Estate, near Kilo Supermarket
Mongolian Barbecue for lunch Friday
Tel: 818214

Come and taste our specialties
Open daily
12:00 noon - 3:30 p.m.
6:30 p.m. - Midnight

CHINA RESTAURANT

ABOVE HANAN SUPERMARKET
The first and best Chinese restaurant in Aqaba
Take-away service available
Open daily 11:30 - 3:30 - and 6:30 - 11:00

AQABA, Tel. 4415

CROWN INTERNATIONAL ESTABLISHMENT

packing, shipping, forwarding, international moving, storage, clearing, door-to-door service

Agents all over the world
Tel: 664006 Tlx: 32266 BRANCO JO
P.O. Box 120467
AMMAN JORDAN



Cinema
CONCORD
Tel: 44092-44280
Les MOREAUS
(Colour)
Tel: 677420
Performances 3:30, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30

Cinema
AL-HUSSEIN
Tel: 22117
THE FIGHTERS
(Colour)
Performances: 12-3 - 5:30-8

Cinema
RAINBOW
Tel: 25155
THE DRIVER
(In Colour)
3:30 6:00 8:30 10:30 p.m.

Cinema
OPERA
CLASS OF 1984
(in colour)
Abdali, behind ALIA offices

Cinema
PALESTINE
Tel: 22117
1- IRON CHAIN
2- ANTAR'S SWORD
(Colour)
Performances: 12-3-7

Cinema
RAGHADAN
Tel: 22198
PRETTY PICKPOCKETS
(Arabic)
(Colour)
Performances: 12-3-5:30-8

Philadelphia

Shows at 3:30, 6, 8:30, 10:15
TEL: 34144-34149

Top Argentine officials resign

BUENOS AIRES (R) — Argentina's top two financial officials have resigned after successfully negotiating the country's \$48 billion foreign debt, a presidential press spokesman said.

The resignations came as the nation's chronic inflation swung wildly out of control, threatening agreements reached after year-long talks with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and creditor banks, local economists said.

The official spokesman said President Raul Alfonsín accepted the resignations of Economy Minister Bernardo Grinspun and Central Bank President Enrique García Vazquez.

There was no official explanation of why they quit.

Mr. Alfonsín appointed Planning Secretary Juan Sourrouille as economy minister and Mr. Alfredo Conception, secretary of internal commerce, as central bank president.

Mr. Grinspun and Mr. García Vazquez had won a \$1.42 billion IMF standby loan and \$4.2 billion in fresh funds.

Mr. Cesar Jaroslavsky, head of

the radical block of senators in the congress, said: "This change appears to respond to the new approach that the president would like to make at present — reactivating the economy and reducing inflation."

Radical party sources said the party was split over the economy minister's record. Traditionalists criticised the failure of the fight against inflation and a five-month-old attempt to work out a social pact with labour and industrialists.

Mr. Alfonsín was twice forced to step in to save the talks, most recently last week when he recognised that the government had failed to compensate workers for losses caused by inflation during the last quarter of 1984.

Mr. Sourrouille, 44, is the author of a recent five-year plan for economic growth that has been praised by both Mr. Alfonsín's radicals and members of the opposition Peronist Party.

The plan emphasises export industries, both agricultural and industrial, as the key to growth in the nation's debt-burdened economy.

He said recently his plan would only be successful if inflation was tamed.

Last September Mr. Grinspun unveiled a three-month plan to defeat inflation. It briefly slowed the growth in the cost of living to 15 per cent in the month of November, but prices then shot upwards in December and January.

January's 25.1 per cent inflation was the second highest monthly rate in the 14 months of Mr. Alfonsín's government and brought the yearly rate to a record 776.3 per cent.

Mr. Conception, 63, unlike Mr. Sourrouille, is a member of the ruling party. He was chief of the national bank until recently when he was appointed to the new commerce post.

Mr. Grinspun, an aggressive negotiator, was scheduled to appear this week before the party leadership which was conducting a critical review of its first year in power.

Mr. Alfonsín took power in December 1983 ending eight years of military rule.

European ministers fail to agree on extra finance

BRUSSELS (R) — European Community (EC) foreign ministers failed to agree Tuesday on how to fund a budget shortfall this year, plunging the group into new financial uncertainty, diplomats said.

They said a formula for ending the cash crisis was blocked by West Germany.

West German diplomats said Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher told the other nine ministers that their proposals to meet the expected shortfall of \$2 billion were unacceptable to his country.

They said the ministers would return to their capitals convinced that the only solution was direct subsidies from their governments as West Germany has proposed.

The other nine had proposed that member governments provide emergency cash which would be refunded when Spain and Portugal join the Community. They are scheduled to become members on Jan. 1 next year.

Bonn says members must stick to the agreement reached at the Community summit in France last June that the money to pay for the bloc's enlargement would be provided once Spain and Portugal were in.

At Monday's session of the ministerial talks, members were evenly split on how to accommodate Spain's big fishing fleet after accession.

"I'm at the end of my tether" European agriculture and fisheries commissioner Mr. Frans Andriessen told Reuters after the talks, the most controversial part of a package which also covers farm products and the position of Iberian workers.

Mr. Andriessen said he was pessimistic about the outcome of the talks.

The chief Madrid and Lisbon negotiators, Spanish Foreign Minister Fernando Moran and Portuguese Finance Minister Emanuel Lopes, were standing by for what they hoped would be the final round in the eight-year negotiations for group membership.

Madrid has made a strong plea for decisive headway, saying that failure to meet the 1986 deadline could lead to rejection of continued Spanish NATO membership in a referendum next year.

Bonn in particular is eager to keep Spain in the alliance.

Meanwhile, the ministers Monday announced interim measures to allow developing countries to benefit from the third in a series of "Lome" trade and aid pacts before the agreements are ratified by member parliaments.

Ministers from the Community and the 65-member African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) group signed the third in a series of wide-ranging, five year agreements in the Togolese capital, Lome, in December.

But with the necessary ratification by the 10 Community parliaments and two-thirds of the ACP states unlikely before the end of this year, officials said temporary arrangements were needed once "Lome II" elapsed at the end of this month.

Some \$5.4 billion of aid guaranteed by Lome III will not be released until ratification. However, diplomats said this would not affect the implementation of aid projects since much of the Lome II money was unspent.

Turkish banks face changes, need time to build strength

ISTANBUL (R) — As Turkey's economy opens up to the outside world, Turkish banks are making profits again but need time to build strength, bankers say.

The banks have responded to competition by foreign banks and to changes caused by an easing of controls on foreign exchange, imports and foreign investment.

How far and fast the liberalisation programme will go is unclear but Turkey's 50-odd banks, a dozen of them state-owned, can expect more changes.

Legislative moves are under way to boost banks' capital, unravel the complicated threads connecting them with industry and streamline bankruptcy procedures which now make it difficult for banks to recover bad debts.

The government of Prime Minister Turgut Ozal came to office at the end of 1983 with a programme of reforms to end years of economic insularity and seek export-led growth.

Government moves then helped end a three-year liquidity squeeze which had devastated bank profits and balance sheets, culminating in the collapse of a major brokerage house and enforced takeover of three banks.

"The banking system turned around in 1984 and started to make operating profits ... this is continuing," said Mr. Husnu Ozengin, general manager of Yapi ve Kredi Bankasi, a middle-ranked private bank.

But he said it would take a couple of years before banks could write off the bad loans they took on in 1980-83. "In another year or two, they will be able to write off these loans with the profits," he said.

Mr. Ozal opened the way for profitability by lifting a 32 per cent interest ceiling on loans. Maximum rates on deposits were set and now stand at 35 per cent for one month, 53 per cent for three months and 52 per cent for six months. Five per cent is the maximum on current accounts.

The government apparently remains committed to economic liberalisation, but some bankers wonder how resilient Turkish industry will be to foreign competition.

"If they really intend to keep on towards liberalism, there will be more bankruptcies ... I don't think Turkey can afford that," said Mr. Melih Gengiz, chief financial officer of Enka Holding, one of the country's largest companies.

Most foreign bankers believe Turkish authorities will become more selective in granting new licences to foreign banks and try to dilute the dominance of American banks.

Out of the country's 12 foreign banks, eight have opened branches since 1981, five of them American, mainly to finance trade.

Mr. Robert Brookes, assistant general manager of Bank of Boston, said: "The Turkish banks have reacted quite aggressively. They don't see (foreign bank) participation as a threat to Turkey but realise the long-term effect of that competition could be very healthy."

Foreign bankers say profits are coming less easily as Turkish banks become more competitive.

"The heyday of high profitability is over but good profitability is still possible" Mr. Brookes said.

Inflation, now running above 50 per cent according to most estimates, is both an enemy and friend to Turkish banks as they try to shake off the effects of the liquidity squeeze.

It shrinks their capital, reducing their ability to book new loans, but lowers the importance of their bad debts. "In an 'inflationary' environment, the growth of the system helps in minimising the size of problems," Mr. Ozengin said.

"The banking system grew by 65 per cent last year because of 52 per cent inflation. No new bad loans are coming on to the balance sheet and companies are in a much healthier state," he said.

Thatcher stands firm on talks to end miners strike

LONDON (R) — Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher Tuesday dashed hopes of an early end to Britain's 49-week-old coal strike when she told Labour leaders that the miners had to give way on pit closures before peace talks could resume.

Before flying to Washington to see President Reagan, Mrs. Thatcher spent an hour discussing the strike with Trades Union Congress (TUC) chief Mr. Norman Willis and six other union leaders at her official residence, 10 Downing Street.

The meeting, requested by the TUC, was the first time Mrs. Thatcher had accepted a direct role in the strike.

She said in a statement later she had told the TUC that a resolution of the strike must be "clearly and unambiguously with the central point of the dispute."

She said that the National Union of Mineworkers (NUM) must accept, before negotiations resume, that the state-run National Coal Board (NCB) has the right to shut pits it deems uneconomic.

NUM leader Mr. Arthur Scargill, who was not at the meeting, insists that negotiations, which broke down last October, must begin without conditions.

Mr. Willis said he hoped a nudge from Mrs. Thatcher could get talks moving again in the strike, which began last March 12 over NCB plans to shut 20 pits and phase out 20,000 jobs.

After Tuesday's talks he said Mrs. Thatcher promised to pass the TUC's views to the NCB which has said there remains a "yawning gap" between it and the union.

Energy Secretary Peter Walker, asked if anything new had emerged at the talks, said nothing could be the central issue remained the same. "Major issues" had still to be decided.

Political sources said a steady return to work in the coalfields was encouraging the government to sit tight and wait for the strike to collapse.

Tuesday 337 miners abandoned the strike and 46 per cent of the 187,400 miners are now working, according to NCB figures.

London's Standard newspaper said NUM executive members had warned Mr. Scargill they were having extreme difficulty keeping their men out on strike, even in militant areas.

The union's executive is due to meet Wednesday, followed by a national delegates' conference on Thursday.

The strike has remained more or less solid in its heartland, Yorkshire, 71 delegates of the 55,000 miners there unanimously re-endorsed the strike Tuesday, a spokesman said.

Dollar surges to new highs

FRANKFURT (R) — The dollar soared to new highs against many leading European currencies Tuesday shrugging off a solo attempt by the Bundesbank, West Germany's central bank, to cool speculative fever on the exchange markets.

Dollar sales by the Bundesbank forced the U.S. currency down to around 3.29 marks in early trading but it quickly regained its poise to hit a 13 1/2 year high of 3.3230 marks.

The dollar reached all-time record highs against the Italian lira and French franc and a 10-year high against the Swiss franc. The pound sterling dropped to a day's low of \$1.0880, 0.4 cents above its all-time record low.

Currency dealers said the Bundesbank sold an estimated \$50 million in early trading in an apparent bid to prevent "disorderly" conditions rather than stop the dollar rising.

Mr. Ernst Pullmann of the Central German Savings Bank here said: "With sales between \$50 and \$100 million (the Bundesbank) can't stop or turn the dollar round."

The dollar opened in New York after Monday's break for Washington's birthday at 3.3222 marks.

Currency traders here said the dollar's advance through 3.30 marks, widely expected by experts, was not due to speculation but broad-based demand.

Lingering dealer fears of a repeat of "black Friday" — last Sept. 21 when the Bundesbank poured \$450 million into the market here to halt the dollar — were being gradually eroded by the failure of leading central banks to act together.

At Tuesday's daily currency fixing in Frankfurt the Bundesbank refused to sell dollars for the second straight day.

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (AP) — Share prices rose on the London stock exchange on Tuesday. But dealers said trading was thin.

After a mixed start, bargain-hunters and then stoploss buyers fuelled a gradual rally that lifted blue chips 2-7 pence. ICI surged 23 pence, Glaxo climbed 17 and BRT 14.

British government stocks were 1/16 better.

Major oil shares improved 2-7 pence, except for Burmah, which was untraded.

Mainlist South African gold minings lost 50-75 cents in modest turnover.

Among bank shares, the four main British banks declined 2 pence, except for untraded Barclays.

The major advances were in chemicals, metals-fabricators, health and household goods and insurance brokers.

Among marginal losers were merchant banks, composite insurers, building materials, foods, stores, office equipment and shipping.

The Financial Times index was 30 industrials closed at 977.5, up 7.0.

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Tuesday.

One sterling	1.0895/0905	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.3440/43	Canadian dollars
	1.3125/45	West German marks
	3.7500/50	Dutch guilders
	2.8115/35	Swiss francs
	66.60/67	Belgian francs
	10.1225/1325	French francs
	2045.0/7.0	Italian lire
	261.50/65	Japanese yen
	9.3475/3575	Swedish crowns
	9.4825/4925	Norwegian crowns
	11.8525/8625	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	302.85/303.35	U.S. dollars

YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

FORECAST FOR WEDNESDAY, FEB. 20, 1985

GENERAL TENDENCIES: The early part of the day and until evening brings you an opportunity to get into your most cherished desires and to arrange to put them into motion tomorrow.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Plan some new way of handling your affairs so that you can gain your aims more quickly and easily.

Taurus (Apr. 20 to May 20) Think over how best you can gain your personal aims and then get busy with new arrangements made.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Make a special effort to get career work done since the aspects are very good and you make big headway.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Find some newer ways of gaining your aims and the results are better, but tonight be very conventional.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Think about promises you have made and how best to carry through with them so that all are satisfied.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) If you go into every angle of agreements with partners you can come to a fine understanding today. Be willing to compromise.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Get your environment as you would like it to be so that you can be more efficient and comfortable in it.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Plan amusements during spare hours that can relieve tensions and uplift your spirits. Your mate may be in a bad mood this evening.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Get your home in better condition in the morning and tonight remain poised if an argument starts there.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) You can handle business affairs very well during the daytime, so get busy early and accomplish a great deal.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Get financial affairs nicely solved during the day but do not be extravagant in the evening. Get good ideas.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) After a day concentrating on personal aims, the evening is not good for being social.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY ... he or she will early comprehend how to use idealistic concepts so that they can become practical realities and should have a fine education that will be very helpful in improving this ability. Good ethical and spiritual studies should be given early in life, and good manners taught.

THE BETTER HALF. By Harris

JUMBLE. THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

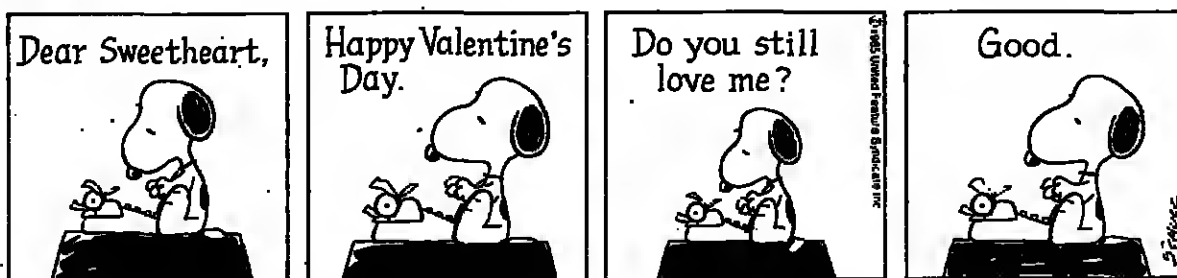
IFFYT
NAKTE
DAGNIE
BROBRE

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

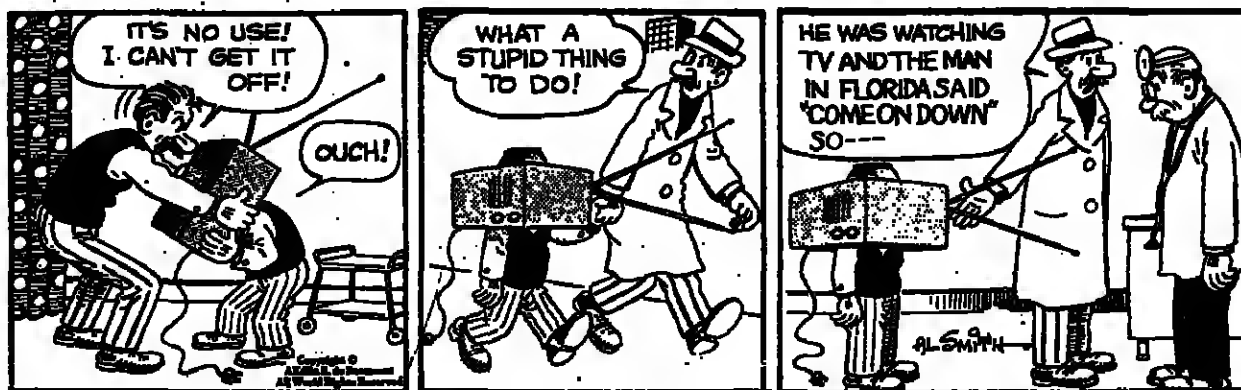
Answer: "LOWLY TRILL NETHER INDUCT"

Yesterday's Jumble: A scratch pad is for people who have this at odd times and places — THE ITCH TO WRITE

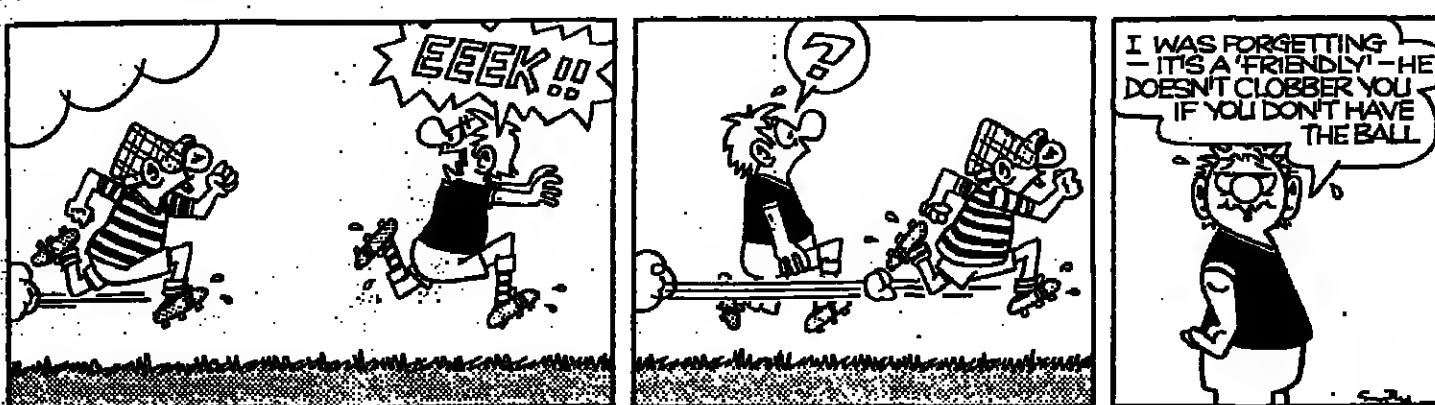
Peanuts



Mutt 'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



THE Daily Crossword

By Evelyn Beneshoff

ACROSS

- Poppycock
- Air lake
- Tell tales
- Earthen pot
- Leather position
- Collect taxes
- Siding up
- Be stimulated
- Lulu
- Meltdown
- secretary
- Disappears
- Petition
- Search out
- Checked
- Vine-covered
- Lothario
- Eggs
- Intrigued
- Up (expected)
- After thermo or rheo
- Before
- Put off
- Slight degree
- Spread heat
- Closed tightly
- New Deal letters
- Stray
- Simultaneously
- Fr. Nazarene
- Old-time actor
- Silly
- Sheet of ice
- Finland
- In a daze
- Addict
- Michigan for one
- Observed
- Metallic vein

DOWN

- Butterline
- Lark
- Concealed
- Mountain
- Excitement
- Principal
- Loathed
- Furnace part
- Wash tub
- Passes
- Ball or jacket
- Reserve
- Base
- Hazard
- Brand
- Belong as a
- Right
- Quot in
- Gamester
- Actress Taylor
- Pedestal occupant
- Expanding star
- Arduous journey
- Indigo
- Humanity to —
- 81 As well
- 52 Two — sleep
- 53 — goes!

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

YIELD PAIDED VASE
ORICE ISERE ALCA
BUBBLE INADELIVE
ASSENTED UNBASY
COOT SCAT
WEIGHT SPOT SKIAT
FERDINA SOLA ASIA
DRYABASARDNYMPS
SEY AYON GRAPES
ELIES ENJO RANE
ETRE ASTY
ASISTO INAGATIVE
GRUISHAN INAGATIVE
NABIN KITES LESS
AMBO STORY AVE

U.S. withdraws 2 more New Zealand invitations

WELLINGTON (R) — Prime Minister David Lange said Tuesday the United States had withdrawn two more invitations to New Zealand to take part in military exercises following his government's ban on visits by nuclear ships.

Mr. Lange said the fresh cancellation of all non-routine defence contacts left him "with a bit of egg on my face."

"But that is worth it for this policy," he told reporters. "We have spoken as a country, the government has a policy and it's going to stand up to it."

The United States earlier reacted to the New Zealand ban by calling off two naval exercises and a meeting on military communications due to have started in Australia Monday. It also cancelled a visit by New Zealand parliamentarians to defence headquarters in Hawaii.

Mr. Lange Tuesday confirmed press reports that Washington had also withdrawn invitations to the annual Team Spirit games in South Korea and the roll call exercise in Fiji and Australia involving ANZUS pact partners Australia, New Zealand and the United States as well as Canada.

Military sources said New Zealand would have sent a small contingent of army officers to the Korean exercise while roll call was a "paper exercise" to which it would have sent 150 voluntary naval reservists.

Mr. Lange said the latest cancellations were "unfortunate," but "the real test will come (if) we are confronted with the cancellations of ... exercises which go to the heart of our efficiency, our ability to defend ourselves in conjunction with our allies."

He repeated his contention that the U.S. reaction would stop short of the cancellation of major manoeuvres like Operation Kangaroo, the major exercise on the 1985 ANZUS calendar.

"We know ... that in the end we have so much which binds us that we are inevitably committed, each to the other, and we can work it through," Mr. Lange said. "But in the meantime there's going to be a bit of wincing and cowering."

Mr. Lange has insisted that the

three ANZUS allies are continuing a normal exchange of intelligence information despite the withdrawal of invitations to exercises.

He said Monday he would go to the United States and Britain next week to defend personally his Labour government's ban on nuclear warships.

Public support for New Zealand's ban on ships capable of carrying nuclear weapons has shown up in the second opinion poll published here in two days.

According to a poll for a Television News Show, 52 per cent of New Zealanders backed the Labour government's ban on port visits by nuclear ships.

The Haylen/Eyewitness Poll said 73 per cent of people supported a total ban on entry of nuclear weapons to the South Pacific nation — a three per cent fall from the earlier poll.

Mr. Lange said on radio the poll, coupled with majority support shown by another poll Sunday, showed New Zealanders identified with his policy.

"It's an endorsement which I expected but nonetheless it's welcome," Mr. Lange said.

New S. Korean premier pledges more democracy

SEOUL (R) — New Prime Minister Lho Shin-Yong was sworn in Tuesday with a pledge to bring fuller democracy to South Korea.

Mr. Lho, 54, a former intelligence chief, told a press conference the results of national elections last Tuesday reflected the will of the people for democratic freedoms.

He said he understood the 40 million South Koreans wanted political stability as well as the development of democracy.

The New Democratic Party (NKDP), backed by dissident Kim Dae-Jung, scored unexpected gains to become the strongest opposition group in parliament with 67 seats although President Chun Doo Hwan's Democratic Justice Party (DJP) retained a majority.

"We will carry out a more honest, faithful government respecting the will of the people," said Mr. Lho, a former foreign minister.

Mr. Kim, 59, who returned on Feb. 8 from two years of exile in

the United States, said he had no particular complaints about Mr. Chun's cabinet reshuffle Monday.

It was the largest reshuffle since Mr. Chun came to power in 1980. Mr. Lho replaced ailing Premier Chin Lee-Chong and 12 other ministers in the 22-member cabinet were affected.

"I still doubt the sincerity of Mr. Chun's government as, for instance, indicated by the naming as information minister of Lee Won-Hong, chief for the Korea Broadcasting System, which unilaterally favoured the ruling class in the election," Mr. Kim said.

"I wonder if this could mean that the new cabinet would be more hardline in future dealing with democratic demands despite the government's pledge to work for more democracy. Let's wait and see."

DJP sources said their leaders were divided on whether the election outcome should be viewed as humiliation for the party, which was expected to carry out its own reshuffle this week.

French rightists ahead in polls

PARIS (R) — France's right-wing opposition would defeat the ruling Socialists if parliamentary elections were held in France now, an opinion poll said Tuesday.

The poll by the Sofres Organisation, published in the right-wing daily Le Figaro, said 58 per cent of voters would support the opposition, 40 per cent would vote for the left and two per cent for the Ecologists.

The poll, little changed from a survey three months ago, shows the Neo-Gaullist RPR Party remaining France's strongest, with 26 per cent of the vote. The centre-right UDF would get 22 per cent and the extreme-right National Front nine per cent.

On the left, 24 per cent would vote for the Socialists, 13 per cent for the Communists and three per cent for other groups.

Elections for the National Assembly are due in 13 months, under France's present "first-past-the-post" voting system. Tuesday's poll would cut the Socialist Party's absolute majority of 269 seats to a mere 50. But the government is expected to introduce a form of proportional representation soon.

Political commentators expect the right-wing opposition to retain control of a majority of France's departments in local elections due next month under the present electoral system.

Switzerland struggles against heavy snow

GENEVA (R) — Western Switzerland Tuesday was struggling against the heaviest snowfalls this century with the Geneva area reported to be in total chaos.

Some 250 flights have been cancelled or diverted since the city's international airport was closed to traffic last Saturday, airport officials said. Snow lay up to 60 centimetres deep on the runways.

The city and surrounding villages, which rarely see much snow in the winter, were caught by surprise as the snowfalls, the heaviest since 1870, hit the area.

The Geneva authorities have set up a crisis centre to get the city's transport services, brought to a virtual halt, back into operation.

"It is complete catastrophe in Geneva, the city has not caught up with the snowfalls two days after they began," a spokeswoman for the Swiss Touring Club said.

About 100 unemployed people were hired to join 400 other workers to clear the city's streets, city officials said.

The opening of a United Nations conference on a new international cocoa agreement, due to resume Monday at Geneva's Palais Des Nations, was postponed until Tuesday as delegates were unable to reach the conference centre.

Although the snow stopped falling Monday, roads remained blocked, with many people getting about on skis.

In central Switzerland, two trains were hit by an avalanche Monday, killing a train conductor and seriously injuring another person.



U.S.-SOVIET: After a pause of some seven years, the United States and the Soviet Union met Tuesday to inform each other on their positions in the Middle East conflict. The U.S. delegation was headed by Assistant Secretary of State Richard S.

Murphy, here brushing past a journalist and saying there would be no comment on the meeting. The picket fence surrounds the Soviet embassy, where the first meeting took place (AP wirephoto)

Vietnam accused of using chemical weapons

ARANYAPRATHET, Thailand (R) — Five Khmer Rouge guerrillas were killed and 11 wounded by Vietnamese shells fired near the Thai border during the night, Thai military officers said Tuesday.

They said the fighting broke out when a small guerrilla band tried to harass Vietnamese forces at the former Khmer Rouge mountain stronghold of Phnum Mak Hoen 12 kilometres south of the Thai border town of Aranyaprathet.

The guerrillas came under rocket and mortar fire and most of their casualties were reported caused by toxic chemicals.

Phnum Mak Hoen was among the first of the Khmer Rouge defence positions to fall to the Vietnamese in their sweep of the former guerrilla complex of Phnom Malai.

In Bangkok officials at the army scientific department said several Vietnamese shells which bit Thai territory in the last few days were found to carry traces of phosgene gas and hydrogen cyanide. They said phosgene gas killed victims within 24 to 48 hours while hydrogen cyanide gas caused almost instantaneous death.

Thai officers at the border said in the latest shelling attack more than 20 rockets and mortar bombs hit a Thai village destroying three houses. No casualties were reported.

They said although Hanoi's forces had succeeded in sweeping most of the guerrilla bases along the border they still expected cross-border incidents to occur.

Refugees confirmed Thai military reports that the Peking-backed Khmer Rouge, the dominant force in the U.N.-recognised Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea, were operating deeper in Kampuchea.

More than 340,000 Kampuchean civilians who formerly lived in guerrilla-controlled sanctuaries near the border have been forced to flee to Thailand since the Vietnamese dry-season offensive began last November.

Sri Lanka denies attacks on fleeing Tamil refugees

NEW DELHI (R) — Several Tamil refugees fleeing to India from Sri Lanka were wounded when Colombo's Navy fired on their boats, the United News of India (UNI) said Tuesday.

A Sri Lankan Navy spokesman in Colombo denied the report. "No Sri Lankan Navy patrol craft has fired at any boat," he told Reuters.

The report followed the return to Delhi of India's high commissioner in Colombo to discuss a Sri Lankan proposal for joint naval patrols in the 30-kilometre wide Palk Straits separating the two countries.

UNI news agency said the shooting forced three boats carrying more than 100 Tamils to change course and land at Dhanushkodi, 20 kilometres away.

UNI said about 927 refugees arrived Monday in Ram-eswaram, Tamil Nadu state, to join more than 4,400 refugees already there.

A further 130 refugees who set out in four boats were expected to arrive soon in Tamil Nadu, whose majority Tamil population has close links with Sri Lanka's Tamils, UNI said.

India's High Commissioner in Colombo, S.J.S. Chhatwal, arrived here Monday to discuss possible joint patrols of the Palk Straits to prevent clashes between the

Sri Lankan Navy and Indian fishermen.

An Indian Foreign Ministry spokesman told reporters India would study the proposal, delivered to Mr. Chhatwal when he called on the Sri Lankan Foreign Ministry to protest against the reported killing of two Indian fishermen by the Sri Lankan Navy last week. Colombo has denied the charge.

Colombo says a surveillance zone was set up in the straits for the navy to patrol the island's territorial waters and enforce checks on guerrillas disguised as fishermen.

But fishermen from both countries have accused the Sri Lankan Navy of preventing them from earning their livelihood from nearby areas rich in prawns. Fishermen have staged protests in Ram-eswaram against the reported attacks.

In Colombo, Sri Lankan politicians have accused a Tamil leader of treachery for asking India to send troops to settle ethnic unrest on the island.

Appapillai Amirthalingam, who heads the separatist Tamil United Liberation Front, called on India last Thursday to intervene in the conflict between the majority Sinhalese and minority Tamil communities. India rejected the appeal.

Canada gives go-ahead for cruise test

OTTAWA (R) — A court Tuesday cleared the way for the first free-flight test of a U.S. unarmed cruise missile over Canada, despite protests by anti-nuclear and environmental groups.

The Canadian Supreme Court refused to grant an injunction to an anti-nuclear organisation called Operation Dismantle which wanted to stop the test.

The missile was due to be launched from a B-52 bomber over the Beaufort Sea Tuesday. The launch point will be 1,500 kilometres from Soviet air space, well within the missile's range.

Operation Dismantle argued in court that a nuclear war could be triggered accidentally if the missile strayed into Soviet territory.

But government lawyer Ian Binnie said the publicity surrounding the test had ensured the Soviet Union knew when and where the test was taking place, and if the missile did stray the Soviets would regard it as an accident.

Two previous cruise missile tests conducted over Canadian territory involved cruise missiles tethered to B-52 bombers.

The missile is due to fly at a speed of 800 kilometres an hour at a height of just 50 to 150 metres above the ground.

The Canadian Defence Department has said it will come no closer than eight kilometres from any community. It will also be shadowed by two aircraft and taken over by remote control at any time if necessary.

If the test is terminated while the missile is in flight, it is programmed to climb to 1200 metres and float to the ground by parachute, the department said.

The Greenpeace environmental group has said it intends to sabotage the test with what it calls its "cruise catcher" — 26 helium-filled balloons equipped with radar deflectors.

148 die in Iberia crash

BILBAO, Spain (R) — A Boeing 727 of the Spanish Airline Iberia crashed into a mountain in foggy weather near here Tuesday as it was preparing to land and officials said all 148 people on board were feared killed.

Rescue workers at the scene said the plane slammed into the 1,026-metre Mount Oiz 10 minutes before it was due to land at Bilbao's Sondica Airport on a scheduled flight from Madrid.

Civil Guard units reported that charred human remains and wreckage were strewn over a large area of the mountaintop.

Rescue workers said there were no signs of survivors despite earlier statements by Iberia that about 20 might have escaped. "With the magnitude of the impact we cannot imagine that there were any survivors," a rescue worker told Spanish National Radio.

A list released by Iberia said 141 passengers, including Bolivian Labour Minister Gonzalo Guzman Eguez and former Spanish Foreign Minister Gregorio Lopez Bravo, and seven crew were on board.

Rescuers had difficulty reaching the scene of the crash in hilly country 30 kilometres south east of Bilbao near the town of Durango.

It was the worst airline disaster in Spain since 276 people died in two crashes at Barajas Airport, Madrid, on Nov. 27 and Dec. 7, 1983.

Control tower officials at Sondica said Captain Jose Luis Patino reported no problems as he brought the three-engined airliner on to the final approach route.

Air traffic officials said the last contact with the plane was at 9.25 local time (0825GMT), 10 minutes before the scheduled landing time.

More than 200 Civil Guards, backed by air force helicopters and local rescue services, searched the steep slopes of the pine forested mountain, which has television and radio antennae on its barren top.

Sondica Airport is regarded as one of the trickiest in Spain but meets all aviation requirements and handles occasional and international flights.

The rescue officials said the plane was totally destroyed and debris was scattered over more than two kilometres.

Princess Anne arrives in India

NEW DELHI (R) — Princess Anne arrived in Calcutta Tuesday to start a 10-day visit to India as president of the Save the Children Fund. The princess came to India in October but her trip was abandoned because of the assassination of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi.

College fined for cruelty to monkey

BROMLEY, England (R) — Britain's Royal College of Surgeons was fined £250 (\$275) for cruelty to a monkey. The British Union for the Abolition of Vivisection brought the private prosecution after a raid last August on the college's research centre by about 80 animal rights activists. The college was fined for causing unnecessary suffering to a monkey, said to have been found during the raid in a state of severe dehydration. It plans to appeal against the verdict.

It was cleared of other claims involving monkeys found with their limbs broken after being trapped in mesh while trying to reach water trays. In southern Spain, several ecologists staged a sit-in Monday in the monkey cage at Huelva City Zoo. Members of the conservationist group Andaluz were protesting over what they called the negligent care and poor conditions in the zoo, which they blamed for the deaths of several animals.

Rio Carnival lives up to reputation

RIO DE JANEIRO (R) — Rio Carnival mixed the beautiful with the bizarre in a night-long orgy of music and abandon to confirm its title of the greatest amateur show on earth. The beauty was provided by little women with only sequins preserving their modesty while masked dancers and mythical beasts puffing steam gyrated in the mile-long samba parade. The girls in skimpy costumes were more suitably dressed for the humid tropical night than the dancers who sweated behind their elaborate disguises during the 14-hour extravaganza. The two nights of the parade will see 150,000 players perform before 90,000 paying spectators and an audience of millions more on television across the country. Each of the 16 samba schools tells a story, recalling a seaman's mutiny against flogging, the abolition of slavery, or praising Brazil's revolutionary President Getulio Vargas who committed suicide in 1954. The rich in \$1,000 boxes lining the route spewed confetti over the dancers from huge plastic pipes and doused them with \$40-a-bottle imported champagne, worth more than a month's wages to many of the dancers from Rio's slums.

Woman pregnant from donor egg, donor sperm

BRUSSELS, Belgium (AP) — An infertile woman is expected soon to give birth after doctors at a hospital placed in her womb an embryo from a donor's egg fertilised by a donor's sperm. It was announced Monday. Scientists at Brussels University said it was the second experiment in the world of what they termed "pre-natal adoption" in which a woman received a donor egg fertilised by donor sperm. The first such attempt, carried out in 1983 in Australia, failed when the recipient mother miscarried, they added. The woman here is "in stable condition and expected to give birth in a few weeks," Paul Devroey, head of the team of scientists involved in the project, told the Associated Press in a telephone interview. He said both the woman and her husband were infertile. Dr. Devroey declined to identify the couple or the donors of the egg and sperm to guarantee anonymity.

57,000 characters painted on fan

PEKING (AP) — An employee at a fan factory in eastern China has painted 57,000 tiny Chinese characters on a fan, radio Peking reported Tuesday. The broadcast said Jin Gang, 27, painted the one millimetre-square characters in white ink on a 40-centimetre black fan, copying the words from four ancient texts. Jin, who works at a fan factory in Hangzhou, 1,140 kilometres south east of Peking, plans to enter the fan in a handicraft competition, said Radio Peking, adding that the fan "looks like stars against a black sky."

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
© 1984 Tribune Media Services, Inc.

GIVEAWAY BY CHANCE

North-South vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
♠ A 7 4 3
♥ A 10 9
♦ Void
♣ Q 4 3 2

WEST
♠ A Q 10 9
♥ Q 7
♦ J 10 8 5 2
♣ K 6 5

EAST
♠ 2
♥ 6 4 3 2
♦ 9 8 5 2
♣ K 7 6 5

SOUTH
♠ K 6 5
♥ A K Q J 10 8 4 3
♦ A
♣ A

The bidding:
South West North East
1 ♠ Double Right Pass
3 ♠ Pass 3 ♠ Pass
4 ♠ Pass 4 ♠ Pass
6 ♠ Pass Pass Pass

Opening lead: Jack of ♠.

Sometimes a perfectly normal action can have unfortunate repercussions. West learned that expensive lesson on this deal.

With the right distribution and considering the vulnerability, no one can quibble with West's decision to make a light takeout double of South's one diamond opening bid. After North's redouble it simply became a matter of how high his side would get to, and the small slam certainly seemed reasonable to South in the light of his partner's bidding.

covered with dummy's queen. East produced the king, and it was now obvious West would have to have every other card for his takeout double. Had West been silent, declarer's best chance would have been to lead a spade toward his king, but now he cast around for an alternate line.

After winning the ace of clubs, declarer started to run his trumps. West was able to discard safely until the last trump, when this position had been reached:

♠ J 8
♥ A K 10
♦ 0
♣ 0

♠ A Q
♥ Q J 6
♦ 0
♣ 0

♠ K 6 5
♥ 0
♦ 0
♣ 0

The last trump finished West. If he discarded a heart, dummy's three hearts would all be tricks; if he let go the queen of spades, dummy would get rid of the 10 of hearts and declarer would simply drive out the ace of spades. Either way, the slam was in the bag.

Does this mean you should never make a light takeout double? No. More often than not, such action will permit your side to compete effectively. But you must face the fact that once in a while even a proper bid is going to rebound on you.